

THE DOUGLAS COLLEGE NEWSPAPER SINCE 1978

The OtherPress.

VOLUME 39

JULY 3, 2013

ISSUE 31



THE

SEX

ISSUE

FIND US ON  

WHO WE ARE

The Other Press has been Douglas College’s student newspaper since 1976. Since 1978 we have been an autonomous publication, independent of the student union. We are a registered society under the Society Act of British Columbia, governed by an eight-person board of directors appointed by Wand from our staff. Our head office is located in the New Westminster campus.

The Other Press is published weekly during the fall and winter semesters, and monthly during the summer. We receive our funding from a student levy collected through tuition fees every semester at

registration, and from local and national advertising revenue. The Other Press is a member of the Canadian University Press (CUP), a syndicate of student newspapers that includes papers from all across Canada.

The Other Press reserves the right to choose what we will publish, and we will not publish material that is hateful, obscene, or condones or promotes illegal activities. Submissions may be edited for clarity and brevity if necessary. All images used are copyright to their respective owners.

The Other Press.

The Douglas College
student newspaper since 1978

Room 1020 – 700 Royal Ave.
Douglas College
New Westminster, BC V3L 5B2

TELEPHONE: 604.525.3542
WEBSITE: www.theotherpress.ca
EMAIL: editor@theotherpress.ca

EDITOR IN CHIEF



Sharon Miki
editor@theotherpress.ca

ASSISTANT EDITOR



Jacey Gibb
assistant@theotherpress.ca

BUSINESS MANAGER



Angela Ho
accounting@theotherpress.ca

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR



Jonathan Roy
socialmedia
@theotherpress.ca

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER



Chris Paik
distribution
@theotherpress.ca

NEWS EDITOR



Dylan Hackett
news@theotherpress.ca

ARTS EDITOR



Angela Espinoza
arts@theotherpress.ca

LIFE & STYLE EDITOR



Sophie Isbister
lifeandstyle@theotherpress.ca

OPINIONS EDITOR



Natalie Serafini
opinions@theotherpress.ca

SPORTS EDITOR



Josh Martin
sports@theotherpress.ca

HUMOUR EDITOR



Livia Turnbull
humour@theotherpress.ca

STAFF WRITER



Eric Wilkins

STAFF WRITER



Aidan Mouellic

STAFF WRITER



Elliot Chan

LAYOUT MANAGER



Cody Klyne
layout@theotherpress.ca

GRAPHICS



Joel McCarthy
graphics@theotherpress.ca

ILLUSTRATOR



Ed Appleby
illustrator@theotherpress.ca

CONTRIBUTORS

Idrian Burgos
Brittney MacDonald
Patrick Vaillancourt

Letter from the Editor:

You down with The OP? (yeah, you know me)

Few would argue against the old adage that “sex sells,” but some may question why we’ve chosen to make this, the July issue of *The Other Press*, our first Sexy Sexy Sex issue in our discernable history—after all, *The OP* is free.

Sex is ubiquitous, consistently newsworthy, and (in my opinion) at the forefront of the minds of 99 per cent of our readers. What better time than the sweaty, sun-drenched throes of July to pique the sexual curiosity of our pages? Without getting pornographic, each section of this month’s issue will feature some full-frontal coverage of some sex-tacular subject matter: like Natalie Serafini’s exploration of the social fallacy of virginity, Angela Espinoza’s review of the Museum of Vancouver’s *Sex Talk in the City* exhibit, Sophie Isbister’s look at sex positivity on campus, Elliot Chan’s romantic saga of Quizno’s-themed erotic fiction, and Jacey Gibb’s scintillating feature on modern-day male circumcision.

My hope is that, along with our regular college and community coverage, this issue titillates your heart and mind for your reading pleasure.

Sharon Miki



Douglas celebrates National Aboriginal Day

Photo courtesy of Sophie Isbister

Event successful in spite of tabling issues

By **Sophie Isbister**,
Life & Style Editor

National Aboriginal Day, a day that the Canadian government describes as a way of “offering Aboriginal Peoples an excellent opportunity to share their rich, diverse cultures with family members, neighbours, friends, and visitors,” was celebrated on June 21. Douglas College held events celebrating the day on June 18 at the David Lam campus in Coquitlam, and on June 19 at the New Westminster campus. *The Other Press* was in attendance at the New West event, hosted in

a joint effort by the Aboriginal Gathering Place and the Douglas Students’ Union (DSU).

The day kicked off in the concourse with speeches, a ceremonial smudging, and a performance by the Git Hayetsk Dancers, who have been performing traditional dances internationally since 2003. The dance group performed to loud drumming, which drew a crowd to the campus’ spacious concourse.

Noticeably absent from the concourse were the presence of information tables. Instead of tabling in the concourse, the rest of the event took place on the fourth floor of the campus, in the hallway outside of the art gallery. “The tablings are all happening up here because they said we can’t table downstairs,”

said DSU Member-at-Large Shila Avissa, adding that it was likely because of the construction project underway on the concourse’s ceiling.

“I would have preferred if we could have been in the concourse,” said Lorna Howat, the DSU’s Disabilities Liason. “I think we would have been able to access more students and have more students involved with this.”

Despite “not enough” students coming through, Howat describes the event as a valuable educational experience for students. Howat was in charge of a DSU table devoted to busting stereotypes about Aboriginal Peoples, which Howat says were a surprise to some: “A lot of people were aware that Aboriginals do pay

taxes, and that not all their education is paid for, where some people just weren’t sure. And that’s fine. This is an opportunity to educate them. We just want to educate the student about Aboriginals and National Aboriginal Day.”

Avissa described the events from the previous day at David Lam, which, like the New West event, featured tables, button blanket workshops, and documentaries, as well-attended: “Yesterday’s [turnout] was great,” Avissa said, adding that “the Git Hayekts dancers attracted so many people at David Lam, because of the drumming. All the people start coming to the atrium, it was amazing.”

The commemorative is no stranger to upsets and

controversy. Artemis Fire, faculty member and instructor of Aboriginal Child and Community Studies, notes that the day was originally intended to have a different name: “The original request for this day came from the National Indian Brotherhood, which is [now] the Assembly of First Nations. That was in 1994. In 1996, it got claimed as a day by the Canadian government. But when they made the original request they wanted it to be called National Aboriginal Solidarity Day, which is different from National Aboriginal Day.” Fire stressed the importance of the difference in meaning of the two names. She also noted the importance of the event in furthering the education of both students and the community.

BC scientists discover new spider species

New discovery a first for Canadians

By **Dylan Hackett**, News Editor

A highly successful BioBlitz conducted last summer in the British Columbian Flathead Valley has revealed the discovery a brand new spider species: the *apostenus ducati*. The team of biologists named the spider after a make of Italian motorcycle.

“Scientists did not find a single introduced species of spider or mollusc, which is very unusual,” said Peter Wood, Terrestrial Campaigns Director for CPAWS BC. Most spider species found in the more populous Lower Mainland and Southern Island areas of BC are of European or Asian origin.

The discovery was announced by environmental non-profit group, the Sierra Club BC, along with concurrent sightings of other rare fauna, including 14 findings of

scientifically significant arachnids. The team of 10 also saw the area’s first Herrington’s Fingernail Clam in 100 years.

“The BioBlitz results prove that BC’s Flathead has remarkable biodiversity not just in mammals and plants but also in a stunning variety of smaller organisms that are essential for a healthy ecosystem,” said Wildsight Executive Director John Bergenske.

The team also spotted flocks of rare and endangered birds, adding to the anomaly factor of

the BioBlitz.

“We didn’t expect to see some of these birds in the Flathead and decided to zoom in for a closer look this year with a bigger team,” said Sarah Cox, Interim Executive Director of Sierra Club BC. “Ornithologists and birders will be awaking at first light to spread out in the valley and mountains so we can get an accurate picture of which rare and at-risk bird species call the Flathead home.”

A BioBlitz is a term coined for labourous short periods of

field surveying where cataloging all active species in a given area is the prime goal. BioBlitzes are held annually in Whistler, and locally at the Burnaby Lake Regional Park. They often act as outreach activities to the broader public and can sometimes have a focus on promoting wildlife conservation.

Conservation efforts in the Flathead region have banned both mining and energy development for the sake of biodiversity. Flathead is still permissible for logging though.

THE OTHER PRESS IS HIRING!

NEWS EDITOR

The News Editor is responsible for coordinating the News section on a weekly basis. The successful applicant will be responsible for five to six quality, edited news articles each week—whether by fielding and editing contributions or by writing articles him or herself.

Must haves:

- Experience with substantive and copy editing (including a strong command of CP style)
- Experience and familiarity with conducting interviews and news-style article writing
- Interest in student and community news and events
- Strong writing skills
- A background in journalism

Pay: \$400/month

Interested? Apply by July 15, 2013 to editor@theotherpress.ca



EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Other Press is hiring an Editor in Chief for the fall semester.

The Editor in Chief is responsible for the editorial content of all six sections of the newspaper, including planning, editing, and overseeing production of each week's issue.

Must haves:

- Extensive experience with editing and editorial print and online production
- Experience managing a diverse team of new and experienced writers and editors
- A background in journalism
- Strong writing and editing skills

Pay: \$1,400/per month

Interested? Apply by July 15, 2013 to editor@theotherpress.ca

STAFF REPORTER

Do you love interviewing people? Are you great at covering events and taking pictures? The Other Press is hiring a Staff Reporter for the fall semester.

The Staff Reporter is responsible for reporting on college news for the News section on a weekly basis. The successful applicant will be responsible for two to three quality news articles each week—finding news, conducting interviews, and taking images.

Must haves:

- Experience and familiarity with conducting interviews and news-style article writing
- Interest in student and community news and events
- Strong writing skills
- Digital photography skills (equipment is provided)

Pay: \$260/month

Interested? Apply by August 15, 2013 to editor@theotherpress.ca

SPORTS EDITOR

Do you know the score? The Other Press is hiring a Sports Editor for the fall semester.

The Sports Editor is responsible for coordinating the Sports section on a weekly basis. The successful applicant will be responsible for five to six quality, edited sports articles each week—whether by fielding and editing contributions or by writing articles him or herself.

Must haves:

- Experience with substantive and copy editing (including a strong command of CP style)
- Experience and familiarity with writing about a wide variety of sports
- Interest in Douglas College sports
- Strong writing skills

Pay: \$400/month

Interested? Apply by August 15, 2013 to editor@theotherpress.ca



World Recap: July

Weekly geopolitical events

By Dylan Hackett, News Editor

Africa: (South Africa) United States president Barack Obama spent time with members of Nelson Mandela's family last week. Mandela, 94, has spent much time recently shuffling in and out of hospitals, where he is now in critical condition. Obama met with South African president Jacob Zuma on his African tour where he gave a speech, addressing the dismantling apartheid as having a role in his own political development.

North America: (United States) The United States Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in favour of a strike-down against a discriminatory section of the Defense of Marriage Act, a 1996 federal bill law that disallowed certain legal provisions to homosexual couples. The main judicial principle against the act was the acknowledgement that LGBT persons are safeguarded from denial of life, liberty, or property under the Due Process Clause. Proposition 8, a gay marriage ban referendum ratified in the 2008 election was also struck down in the court's decision. The repeal came timely for gay pride weekend celebrations held worldwide.

Latin & South America: (Ecuador) United States Vice President Joe Biden has requested Ecuador refuse whistleblower Edward

Snowden's request for asylum. Last month, Snowden leaked details of the NSA's "Prism" program, a massive spy network monitoring the world through social media, and the US is now charging Snowden with counts of espionage. Snowden is being assisted by WikiLeaks in attaining asylum from Ecuador, who have been housing renowned WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange in their London embassy. Snowden initially fled to Hong Kong and is believed to be in Moscow.

Oceania: (Australia) An Australian Labour Party leadership ballot ousted Prime Minister Julia Gillard, the nation's first female prime minister. Kevin Rudd assumed position last Thursday and is set to lead the party in the coming fall election. Gillard won the 2010 election by a narrow margin but has since remained popular in polls. Gillard plans to retire from politics.

Europe: (England) The two men who slayed military drummer and machine gunner Lee Rigby in broad daylight on May 22 have a trial date set for November. The brutal video of the killing made its way online moments after happening. Rigby had been a well-liked military recruiter stationed in London since 2011, and he now leaves behind a two-year-old son. The killers stated religious motivation was the reason behind the killing.



President Obama in Nelson Mandela's prison cell on Robben Island. | Photo courtesy of Pete Souza/BusinessInsider.com

Batman to the rescue

Turkish city wins emergency condom delivery system contest

By Aidan Mouellic, Staff Writer



The town of Batman in Turkey was awarded as the pilot city for condom manufacturer Durex's emergency condom delivery system after voters in a Facebook contest jokingly voted for the city that shares a name with the iconic DC Comics hero.

In an effort to familiarize people with the SOS system, Durex launched a contest via its Facebook page, which allowed users to vote for a city that deserves emergency condom services. The contest was quickly hijacked by online pranksters who proceeded to vote the socially conservative city of Batman, Turkey into first place.

Representatives from Durex acknowledged that the contest was "won" by Batman, but said that they do not intend to enter the heavily-Muslim Turkish city with their condom delivery team anytime soon.

The SOS system allows individuals to place condom orders online or from their phone and the condoms will be delivered to their door in a speedy manner. The logic behind the system is that individuals who are too timid to purchase condoms in public or who find themselves in a situation where they are without access to one can order up a dozen condoms for \$15 and they

will arrive briefly by discreet courier.

The system has had success elsewhere in the Muslim world. Dubai hosted a Durex SOS trial where users were able to download the Durex app to their phone or computer and when the need arose they were able to get a dozen condoms discreetly delivered to their location in less than an hour—so long as it was between 4 p.m. and 4 a.m. In a socially-conservative city like Dubai, many found the service to be helpful in avoiding awkward or tense store checkout purchases. The service is no longer in operation in Dubai but Durex is

still aiming to launch elsewhere, though they are re-evaluating their methods of city selection..

While online marketing remains a dominant force in the business world, hackers present a problem for companies to avoid. Even with the contest problems, shares for Reckitt-Benckiser, the British company which owns Durex, have risen by 36 per cent in the past year—the Batman fiasco is unlikely to cause any damage to the corporation's bottom line.

Douglas billionaire awarded distinguished honour

Frank Giustra receives nod from college

By Dylan Hackett, News Editor

In the spirit of June’s graduation celebrations, Frank Giustra, renowned billionaire philanthropist and entrepreneur, received an honour as a distinguish alumnus of Douglas College. The class of 1979 graduate thanked the college in a video address to this year’s graduates.

“Be confident in yourself. At the end of the day, all you have is your own conviction about your ability to succeed. You’re no more disadvantaged than anyone who thinks they know what they want to do...you’ll figure it out when you get out there,” Giustra spoke.

“Do what you have to do. Get your foot in the door. The objective is to get in front of people who will make a decision about hiring you.”

Earlier this year, Giustra dropped by the New Westminster campus

as a guest of the Douglas College Business Association, answering questions from future billionaire-hopefuls and delivering similar advice to a packed audience.

“Don’t take the advice of old people...Lots of people would give me advice and I would just nod. I knew what I wanted,” said Giustra. “If you don’t already have your vision of what you want to be, go out there and try things.”

Giustra’s entrepreneurial successes are especially varied. His ventures range from mining

financing, film production (Lions Gate), to his current project: olive oil. He’s currently promoting his award-winning Domenica Fiore Olio Reserva, named after his mother.

“In my life today, challenges are every day. There will be ups and downs. You just have to be confident that you will do whatever it takes to get through it. Name any successful entrepreneur. If you listen to their life stories, [you’ll hear] it’s a series of ups and downs,” said Giustra.

“I think Steve Jobs said

it right in his commencement speech at UCLA some years ago. [He said] to never stop looking until you find what you’re passionate about. Work very hard and have the conviction to see it through.”

Beyond business, Giustra has a noteworthy resume of philanthropy on both local and international levels. He has been working with the City of Vancouver on Streethome, a collaborative investment project to combat homelessness. He’s most acknowledged for his work with Bill Clinton.



Frank Giustra interviewed on Douglas College’s YouTube channel | Photo courtesy of [www.YouTube.com/user/DouglasCollegeVideo](https://www.youtube.com/user/DouglasCollegeVideo)

Getting intimate with Burgundy Brixx

By **Angela Espinoza**, Arts Editor

Burlesque is alive and thriving in Vancouver, with a popular International Burlesque Festival each May and the hit weekly show *Kitty Nights*. On the great and vast subject of burlesque in the city, we spoke with the crème de la crème herself, Vancouver's reigning burlesque queen, Burgundy Brixx!

How long have you been doing burlesque?

I started doing burlesque in New York in 2006. I took a class at the New York School of Burlesque and was instantly hooked on it. In that class I met a gal named Fem Appeal, and she was starting a little show on the lower east side and she asked me if I would like to be a part of it, and that show was *Kitty Nights* New York.

So then did you start *Kitty Nights* in Vancouver?

"Yep! I moved here in 2008 and I got the opportunity to do a show at the Biltmore [Cabaret], and...Fem Appeal had said, 'Hey, if you did a show in Vancouver, why don't you call it *Kitty Nights* and we'll run both shows from either coast?' That was five years ago, and we're still doing it; they're on Sunday nights in both cities at the same time."

How do you feel about Vancouver's burlesque scene? Do you think we've had a boom in the last decade, or that the scene has always been present?

"The burlesque revival itself started in the early '90s. I know there was a bit of burlesque at that point, with *Screaming Chicken* [Theatrical Society] and *Sweet Soul Burlesque*. Even they say, 'We didn't know what we were doing,' and were just trying to figure it out by looking at books and pictures and things like that."

"Definitely since I've moved here, I've seen a huge boom in the burlesque community. There were only [a few] troupes, and they did shows occasionally... there certainly wasn't a weekly show here; there wasn't even a monthly show. But I didn't see any reason why we shouldn't have a weekly show—there are a lot of performers here, and I felt like they all needed some place to work...and to perform."

"I think people saw that [burlesque] could be viable as an entertainment form and also as a performance art. There have been so many other groups who now feel like they're validated and liberated enough to start their own shows, that's why... it's really getting more into the mainstream."

I feel there's still a bit of a misplaced stigma in terms of burlesque, and it revitalizing a woman's ability to be sexy. Do you have anything to say in that regard?

"Religion or art or whatever it is, if somebody doesn't like it...you can't force anything on anyone. There's always going to be some women who aren't comfortable around burlesque, and that's absolutely fine. I do feel that it's always been a very safe place; burlesque audiences are generally...brought up to be accepting of all different types of women."

"It's about the woman bearing something more than her body. Our souls and our spirits are so unique and beautiful and interesting that when you're sharing something beyond the flesh, it's always sexy and it's always interesting. If a woman is brave and joyous in her sexuality and her sensuality, then it's always transfixing... to watch on stage."

"I don't care who they are or what they look like, it's all about this inner fire, and everyone's is different. All these different flames of women [are] so captivating, and I think that's what keeps the audience coming back too. Every woman who walks on the stage has something original to bring, and personal. That's what makes it exciting."

Now that we're halfway through the year, how has burlesque in Vancouver been in 2013?

"This has been an amazing year for burlesque in Vancouver, and also for Vancouver on the global scale. Some of these performers from Vancouver are really respected and recognized in the global burlesque... and artistic community. So a lot of performers, myself and many others, have had many opportunities to perform in different cities, in different countries, for different festivals, different headlining events, and to teach what we bring to the table for burlesque to a lot of new performers and performers



Burgundy Brixx | Photo courtesy of Shimona Henry

from different scenes. It's been a really amazing year for outreach...because we're getting a lot of acclaim as one of the major cities for the burlesque movement."

Do you have any performances coming up?

"I always have *Kitty Nights* every Sunday! Occasionally we do a show where we bring in our musicians and we do a live hard rock accompaniment for

all the acts...so for Canada Day, we [did] all Canadian rock hits. I work with Pandora and the Locksmiths and we always have an event the second Tuesday of every month downtown at Guilt & Co. I'm headlining the first ever Edmonton Burlesque Festival in the fall, so that's very exciting...and that's a testimony to the fact that burlesque is spreading across Canada, which we like!"

Brixx will also have a new monthly showcase premiering this month on Wednesday, July 17 at the Biltmore Cabaret. Presented by *Kitty Nights*, the show is entitled *What's New, Pussycat*, which sets the stage for performers new to the Vancouver scene. The second show will be on Wednesday, August 14, and you can find event info here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/554622691247244/>

Can you tell me how to get to 'Avenue Q'?

'Avenue Q' is now on at the Arts Club Theatre

By **Angela Espinoza**, Arts Editor



With a vodka-cran in hand, I sat and watched the theatre fill up around me. Opening night was packed with a largely adult, semi-formal audience, and it wasn't until a very sweet looking elderly couple sat down beside me that I realized something: we were going to be watching some very cute puppets have some very graphic (simulated) sex.

The off-Broadway/on-Broadway hit by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx ended its six-year run in 2009, with local performances popping up elsewhere since. This is the first time *Avenue Q* has been performed at the Arts Club Theatre in Vancouver—and this is one of the best performances of the show I've ever seen. From the delightful puppeteering to amazing voice acting to incredible singing, Arts Club has pulled out all the stops on this one.

The show begins with a short, *Sesame Street*-like intro,

with shots of the puppets walking around Vancouver as the show's intro song ("The Avenue Q Theme") is played. In walks a confused little puppet man named Princeton (controlled and voiced by Andrew MacDonald-Smith), who sings out to no one in particular, "What Do You Do With a B.A. in English?" He wanders into Avenue Q, an affordable, rundown area in New York (perhaps I should say Vancouver). Here he meets a slew of new friends and neighbours, such as Rod (also MacDonald-Smith) and Nicky (Scott Bellis), Trekkie Monster (also Bellis), flesh couple Christmas Eve (Shannon Chan-Kent) and Brian (Andy Toth), love interest Kate Monster (Kayla Dunbar), and superintendent Gary Coleman (Evangelia Kambites).

Here on Avenue Q, each of these colourful characters sing not about the problems of sharing or spelling, but of crappy relationships, repressed homosexuality, and desperately needing money. But the gang has fun too, such as learning to cope with the fact that "Everyone's a Little Bit Racist," and realizing that "The Internet is for Porn," and, again, enjoying the pleasures of hot, cloth action.

While on Avenue Q,

Princeton makes some not-so-great friends: cabaret singer Lucy the Slut (also Dunbar) and the horribly misguided Bad Idea Bears (also Bellis and Jeny Cassady), who are always there to make your life a little bit worse.

But all the fun and vulgarity aside, *Avenue Q* has a very thought-provoking and heartfelt message at its core. Princeton's main quest when he first moves in is to find his "purpose" in life, which becomes the running theme of the show. The ending isn't exactly what you'd expect from a show like *Avenue Q*, but it does leave you thinking.

The cast is absolutely fantastic; the stars of the show keep the puppets in the limelight, and if you let your imagination run a little bit, the combination of puppet and actor is hilarious on its own. It's difficult to pick standout performances from the great

cast, but MacDonald-Smith, Bellis, Dunbar, and Chan-Kent were definitely the ones that stole the show.

There's no question here that the Arts Club Theatre's *Avenue Q* has to be seen by everyone. The show runs throughout July and ends August 3, so get tickets while you can

because the show is likely to sell out. And hey, why not have a few beforehand at this alcohol-permitted theatre? Like the Bad Idea Bears say, "More drinks! More fun! Yay!"



'Vancouver's hidden gem' shines for the city

It's Imperial, but is it the next big thing?

By **Angela Espinoza**, Arts Editor

In the past couple years, many independent theatres and venues in Vancouver have been closing their doors. Many of these closures come from a lack of affordability; it's unfortunate that so many great venues in Vancouver have difficulty staying afloat. With that said, there's always a glimmer of hope, and for the Imperial, that glimmer is from a shiny, golden tiger. We spoke with Scott Emslie, one of the core team members of the new and improved Imperial, about what changes were necessary to make the venue Vancouver's newest hotspot.

The Imperial first opened its doors as the Golden Harvest

in the '70s, where it became a popular place to view kung fu and Chinese language movies. In 2007, the building received a \$2.5-million renovation that served as a start in updating the venue, then known as District 319. Now, having just completed another major renovation, the Imperial has successfully combined its Asian theatre roots with a brand new concert hall and sound system.

"One of the things we're trying to do is make sure the venue is very versatile," begins Emslie. "We *do* want to have an upscale feel, but not necessarily formal, and...we put a lot of work into [the Imperial], and it's a beautiful venue. District 319 was known for film screenings and corporate events, and we're expanding and we're doing a lot more live music...and some [electronic dance music] shows. We're opening up the venue to a wider range of events."

With a lot of space now available, Imperial is intended as a multi-purpose venue. Concerts are a big focus, but the venue also serves as a movie theatre.

"We definitely hope to be doing some [film] premieres," Emslie adds, "and then some private screenings as well. Our capacity is 370, so it's basically made for more intimate screenings or private events as far as film goes. I know there's a lot of film festivals in Vancouver and a couple of the theatres have closed down recently, so we're definitely looking to get involved."

And in terms of concerts, along with touring bands:

"[We're] going to focus on local bands that are up-and-coming. The live element to our venue is brand new, and so we're trying to feature that over the next month or so. What we're planning on doing is a

month-long series every Friday with live local bands [called Live Fridays]."

Emslie also pointed out that the venue runs on a liquor license. In recent years, BC's Liquor Control and Licensing Branch has proved particularly difficult with their liquor license restrictions on independent venues. With that in mind, Emslie remains optimistic.

"I know it's definitely difficult to get a liquor license in this province. We have the liquor license in place, and it's all about making sure we're following all the rules...and for us it's always a priority to make sure that our venue is controlled and our liquor service is controlled. I know if we're following all the rules, then the liquor branch won't have any issues with the venue."

Finally, Emslie spoke towards the venue's relationship with Intersections, a charity

that creates media-related opportunities for at-risk kids and teens.

"We're doing a few of our fundraisers for [Intersections], so that all of the money that comes in for coat check is going to Intersections, and then we're also going to do a fundraiser for them later in the year, where the proceeds from the entire event will go back to them."

Between the possibility of being a new film festival theatre, receiving an intense technical upgrade to their sound system, and getting involved with a local charity, the Imperial is looking like it could very well be the next big thing. The Imperial is a short bus ride away from the Main Street SkyTrain station, so take some time to support one of Vancouver's newest local venues.

Come out and celebrate Pride Month!

Vancouver Pride Society plans big changes for pride events

By **Angela Espinoza**, Arts Editor

The Vancouver Pride Parade is consistently one of the city's biggest summer events. Now in its 35th year, the parade has officially become a civic event, receiving a significantly improved budget and being recognized as a popular draw for the city. But who are the people behind the parade, and a number of Vancouver's other pride events? General Manager Ray Lam, now in his ninth year with the Vancouver Pride Society, fills us in on some of this year's events and what's planned for the 2013 Vancouver Pride Parade, happening August 4 following July, or "Pride Month."

"When I first got involved," Lam starts, "our parade [reach]

it's going to be all ages. With Gay Day, we moved the Gay Day festival site just 15 metres outside of the Playland gates now onto the off-season PNE grounds, so that means that the festival—the beer gardens, the games, the performances, the drag show—all of it is a free area now, so if you want to come out to just celebrate pride and you don't want to go on any of the rides... you can come in for free."

Lam also explained that events will happen "year-round," with an upcoming gala dinner occurring later this fall. The gala will also serve as a fundraiser for smaller, non-profit pride-related organizations in Vancouver such as the Trans March and Dyke March. In addition, more events will occur that are inclusive for sober and younger pride members, such as Clean, Sober, and Proud and the Pride Youth Dance (both on August 4).

Then there's the largest announcement in regards to the 2013 Vancouver Pride Parade:

turned into a really big, civic celebration now.

"And we also have Zdravko Cimbalevic from [the country of] Montenegro. When he came out a couple years ago and founded the LGBT Forum Progress, local media all recognized him as the first publically-out gay man in Montenegro, which is kind of mind-blowing, even now. I think it's like four or five years later, he's still recognized as the only publically-out gay man in Montenegro."

The purpose of bringing these five people together is to show how there is still progress to be made.

"This is our 35th anniversary," Lam reflects, "and we wanted to show people that we in Vancouver are celebrating the oldest Pride in the country, but we have to recognize that not all countries and not all cities are as fortunate as we are. Montenegro is a great example, and so is Brockville... it also shows you that it's not just international. Yes, we have

“This is our 35th anniversary,” Lam reflects, “and we wanted to show people that... we have to recognize that not all countries and not all cities are as fortunate as we are.”

was 125,000 people, and last year it was estimated at over 650,000 people, so it's been a pretty huge growth since then. It was also two events before, now we have 18 official events and an entire month of pride."

Some of these events include Pride Night at the Whitecaps (July 6), Gay Day at Playland (July 13), Pride Run and Walk (July 27), and several special movie nights. This year, Lam explains his team has also found ways to make the festival events more affordable for patrons, with permanent pricing changes.

"We've made a move to have as many low cost events as possible," Lam continues. "There are a couple events that we do annually that we can't do that for, like the Davie Street Party (August 2)... and the Gay Day at Playland. So what we've done... is create a free festival zone... so for Davie Street, this year instead of having four fenced-in ticketed blocks, we've reduced it to two [blocks], and in the third block we're having a free community festival, and

several grand marshals will be leading the march, all of whom represent people and places where pride still struggles to be accepted, even in Canada.

"We have the mom's of PFLAG Vancouver...to celebrate their contribution to Vancouver and their history and commitment to...creating something special. The three mom's, Susan Harman, Karin Lind, and Aideen McKenna, that we're specifically honouring are members of the PFLAG Vancouver board that have served for 10 years, and they've done a lot of great work in the community.

"Then we also have Brandon Timmerman...who started a pride in Brockville, Ontario, which is a small town...surrounded by military towns. He was 15 years old when he founded that pride... and then the following year, City Hall actually unanimously designated it Pride Week. This is their third year, and now they have places in the downtown core putting up rainbow flags on their doors and it's just

equal marriage in Canada... but that doesn't mean that it's translated to smaller cities and rural communities throughout the country. Abbotsford just celebrated their first Pride Parade, that was met with heavy protest, so there's still a lot of work to be done and that's kind of what we're trying to highlight with this year's parade."

Amongst other big changes to this year's parade, accessibility areas for senior patrons have been expanded so that they can enjoy the parade without exhaustion. There will be a musical occurring at this year's parade, emphasizing a focus on local arts and culture. Perhaps the biggest change of all though is that Shaw and Outlook TV will be streaming the parade live online for all to see, and will be broadcasting footage of the event throughout the rest of the summer in order to widen the parade and festival's reach.



Pride Parade General Manager Ray Lam

Sex is everywhere in the Museum of Vancouver

Explore Vancouver's sexual history with 'Sex Talk in the City'

By **Angela Espinoza**, Arts Editor

The Museum of Vancouver (MOV) plays host to several exhibits, both permanent and temporary, that serve to teach us about Vancouver's vibrant and colourful history. One of the MOV's recent exhibits has been *Sex Talk in the City*, a four-room look at Vancouver from under the sheets. On top of experiencing this fantastic exhibit, Curator of Contemporary Issues Viviane Gosselin spoke to us on the process of bringing many bits of Vancouver's sexual history to light.

Sex Talk takes the unique approach of exploring Vancouver's history in its relation to sexuality. The four rooms are carefully laid out to blend with each other as folks weave their way through the city's surprisingly liberated history. Everything from high school learning tools to the different kinds of relationships

people can have to what has been challenged and accepted over time is analyzed in a way that does not overwhelm attendees.

"The idea came years ago," Gosselin starts, "I was working on an exhibition on human biology, and of course at one point you talk about sexuality and...teen sexuality. I noticed that there were so many bright, challenging conversations with the staff and visitors that I thought, 'I have to promise myself at one point I'd do something like an exhibition dedicated explicitly and solely to the topic of sexuality.' So when I came on staff at the Museum of Vancouver three years ago, that was the first exhibition subject that I proposed, and people were very receptive."

Perhaps the exhibit's biggest advantage is that it is taking place in a museum that focuses on Vancouver's anthropology. Exploring the city's sexual underground from this perspective shows us that, while surprisingly liberated, we've had previous issues with gay rights, what sorts of learning materials are allowed in schools, and complicated issues such as birth control.

In obtaining some of the

more historical objects, such as dozens of vibrators, gorgeous burlesque outfits, and a bondage chest-and-head piece, Gosselin added:

"I could not have done [this] without a large advisory committee. My challenge was to calibrate and invite key people and, at the same time, try to have this very diverse topic of sexuality live in that same place. After six months of talking to this advisory committee that I gathered—they were educators, historians, and public health experts—it became obvious that how we learn about sexuality is an important question. We think about where our ideas of sexuality come from, and how...our education, formal and informal, influences the way we live our sexuality."

You'll also find that each room is designed specifically to reflect the key areas where we all learn about sexuality: the classroom, the bedroom, and the streets. Gosselin further explained these concepts:

"I came up with four themes that became the four spaces of the exhibition. So you have pedagogy, how we learn about sex and sexuality; pleasure, how people define sexual pleasure; politics, how certain groups and divisions of power



Vibrators through the ages | Photo courtesy of Rebecca Blissett

can influence the way we live sexually; and permission, which is a space dedicated to giving visitors permission to talk about sexuality, even to strangers."

One of the most important lessons to take from *Sex Talk* is that, in terms of this being a museum exhibit, unlike niche interests, sexuality is one of the few subjects that actually does affect *everyone*. We all have different turn-ons and fetishes, some that are easy to enjoy in this city and some that aren't, and how we come to learn those things about ourselves requires

some very in-depth learning on our parts. This exhibit offers a warm and inviting environment for visitors to openly discuss sexuality with each other, something that is inevitable after viewing old copies of the 1950s to 1970s gay magazine *Physique Pictorial* and the uniform of Vancouver's safe sex superhero, Captain Condom.

Sex Talk in the City will be running until September 2; student tickets are \$10, so take a friend or partner and ruffle through some drawers.

Rated M for mature

Have video games reached sexual maturity?

By **Brittney MacDonald**, Contributor

I remember my first encounter with sexuality in video games. I was giggling over pixelated nipples in *Duke Nukem* with my cousins, hoping no adults wandered in when we handed her the cash. As I've grown older, I've expected more from my video games than a plumber and his princess, or a chauvinist beefcake interacting with stationary "babes." Romance has always been a part of console gaming, but the way it is presented has changed over time.

I've witnessed and played through the fairy tale-like worlds of *Mario* and *Zelda*, helping the hero get the girl and crossing my fingers for that long-awaited end game kiss.

The NES made these games a popular new hobby and created a generation (or two) of gaming addicts, and that part hasn't changed. Kids nowadays are growing up with graphics-heavy titles, and complicated game play. But what happens to the other gamers? The ones cultivated on Atari and Super Nintendo? Those gamers have matured, and so have their tastes.

So games started going through an evolution, starting with the addition of mainstream graphic violence like *Mortal Kombat*. Though it sold well, it also brought another element to gaming: the idea of controversy. *Mortal Kombat*, *Night Trap*, and many other games got caught up in a congressional hearing protesting their content. All this attention did little to dissuade the gaming industry, and only led to the addition of game ratings. Ratings are a little system for parents to use to tell if the game is the "Curb

stomping your enemies" kind of fun or the "Learn to play the flute from a talking boat" kind.

Games with questionable sexual content had already been created, but they were now receiving sequels. The early '90s for gaming were a time I like to refer to as, "The Hormonal Teenager." A male-dominated industry filled with sex and violence, with little substance to glue it all together. There were exceptions of course (such as *Final Fantasy 7*), but titles like *Duke Nukem 3D*, the *Leisure Suit Larry* series, and many others displayed a certain puberty-driven aesthetic that, although entertaining and hilarious, missed the mark on being especially memorable. After all, can you pick out one *Duke Nukem* game from the next purely based on substance, and not the evolution of technology or graphics?

But as teenage boys grow up and learn the lingerie section of the Zellers' catalogue isn't the

pinnacle of eroticism, the games industry also grew. Suddenly writers and storylines became more important, perhaps even more important than eye candy. Attractive characters and love interests were combined with immersive game play and deep, plot-driven arcs. The early 2000s brought us games like *Final Fantasy X* (a personal favourite) and *Shadow of the Colossus* (SOTC). In some ways, this may have been a jump back, especially with SOTC. A hero is still doing everything he can to save his "princess," but the key difference is the evolution of character development. Characters are now faced with moral choices and gamers become more emotionally involved in the games they play.

More recently, sex has been reintroduced as an achievement, but unlike the early days of the '90s, that achievement is less of a conquest and more an element to game play. Successful series such as *Mass Effect* and

Dragon Age have incorporated relationships and sex as an optional element to enhance the plot, but nothing is lost should the player wish to ignore it. These games have enjoyed commercial success, and *Mass Effect 2* even won Game of the Year (with a nomination for Game of The Decade) from Spike's Video Game Awards.

But what does this mean to older gamers? The ones that grew up with the games industry and have been a part of the gaming market since learning the 'Konami Code' with their Kool-Aid moustache? I can't speak for everyone, but I look forward to the continued progression as writers and developers work to perfect the human experience of relationships in the digital arena. I just hope that means more options like Garrus Vakarian, because nothing says sexy like a seven-foot-tall grasshopper in a space suit.

The Other Dress: July Edition

By Aidan Mouellic, Staff Writer



Angelica Cardiff

Science-transfer student

How would you describe your style?: "Sort of laid-back and edgy at the same time."

Worst dressed celebrity?: "I don't know. I don't really know celebrities that well. Probably Lady Gaga."

Most desired clothing item?: "Nice jackets."

How much would you have to be paid to wear lingerie for a day?: "It would have to be a lot. I'm not a very open person."

How would your mom dress you?: "Probably more girly clothes, dresses."



Tyler Wang

Communications-transfer student

How would you describe your style?: "Active, sports...anything outdoors, snowboarding, surfing, swimming, and casual attire."

Worst dressed celebrity?: "People who are over-trying. I don't pay too much attention to celebrities, but I like simple style."

Most desired clothing item?: "Anything black shirt. My favourite shirt right now is the Steve Jobs shirt. I just need some New Balances and crappier jeans."

How much would you have to be paid to wear lingerie for a day?: "It depends who asks. It depends what it's for. It could be a lot of money, or it could be for free: depends on the circumstances."

How would your mom dress you?: "She's a Buddhist practitioner, so she would probably want me to wear something really big and floating, like those kung fu masters, that's what she wears."



Between the Sheets: Douglas College

Sex positivity in a college setting

By Viv Steele, Pro-sex Warrior

I've been writing my sex column in *The Other Press* for eight months now, and it's still a challenge to gauge the sexual climate at Douglas College. Are students thinking about sex? Are they having it? Are they reading my column? For our sex-themed July issue, I wanted to do a state-of-sex address to students, to shed some light on the types of services that the college and the Douglas Students' Union (DSU) can offer to students. To help me answer some questions, I turned to the front lines of sex positivity on campus, Milo Leraar, the DSU's Pride Liaison, and Shila Avisa, DSU Member at Large and former student staff of the Women's Centre at the New Westminster campus.

Avisa told me briefly about what the Women's Centre has to offer to women with questions about sexual health: "Aside from providing free condoms, usually the role of the student assistants is to refer students

to the appropriate agencies in the Lower Mainland that provide sexual health services," acknowledging that the centre "still [needs] to provide more non-heteronormative safe sex kits such as dental dams, gloves, lube, et cetera."

There's one tiny problem with the Women's Centre on campus: it doesn't seem to be open. Leraar had a few comments to make on the cutbacks at the Women's Centre.

greater funding that the centre sees from the college, it can operate with greater efficacy: "While the Women's Centre is funded by the college, then there are college-paid employees and counsellors who can work there," allowing for greater coverage than the time-crunched volunteers at the DSU can offer.

With a lack of pro-sex or sex positive resources for students that are directly provided by the college, it's the Students' Union

dams and lube coming in pretty soon." Currently, the Pride Centre is open to anyone who feels like they need to access the space. Leraar stressed the importance of keeping the space inclusive of people who aren't necessarily LGBTQ, because during college some people might be closeted or straight-identified and wanting to learn more.

In my storied career at post-secondary institutions, I've

thinks that colleges have a role to play surrounding students education about these issues, mostly related to consent and safer sex. The college has a responsibility to make sure that counsellors are knowledgeable about consent and safer sex practices, for straight and cisgendered students as well as queer and transgender students. Leraar also mentioned the fight for a queer space at the David Lam Campus, where DSU services are limited because of space constraints.

I believe that college is a place of learning, education, and experience—which often includes sexual experience. Leraar explains it: "A lot of people who attend college are within the age range that is like, largely sexually active but also largely ignorant about what they're doing. College is supposed to be a place where we learn life skills. I think a very important life skill is how to navigate sexuality, relationships, and consent."

If you have any comments or questions or if there's anything you'd like to see in *Between the Sheets*, please e-mail me at sex@theotherpress.ca!

“With a lack of pro-sex or sex positive resources for students that are directly provided by the college, it's the Students' Union and the Pride Centre that end up picking up a lot of slack for educating students about sexual issues.

"It seems obvious to me that what they're doing is trying to [say] 'Oh, well nobody uses it anyway so what's the point of having it,' which is what they did to the Pride Centre a really long time ago. That's why it's in the DSU," Leraar tells us. If the Women's Centre ceases to be a college-funded resource for students, Leraar says it's likely that the DSU will pick up the slack, but cautions that with the

and the Pride Centre that end up picking up a lot of slack for educating students about sexual issues.

Leraar mentions that the Pride Centre is in the process of moving to a different space in the DSU building, and adds: "Right now we do have just fairly basic services: we have a resources library, we have condoms, and we're getting internal condoms and dental

noticed that Pride Centres are often a place of sex positivity and openness. Leraar says there's a reason behind that: "When you get a community [where] most of the people have just done more thinking and talking and analyzing of sexuality and sex it just makes spaces which are a bit more open."

College is a time of sexual experimentation, and Leraar

Making the Cut: The history of male circumcision

By Jacey Gibb, Assistant Editor

Cut versus uncut, turtleneck versus sweater, anteater versus mushroom head. There's no shortage of terms used to identify whether or not a male is circumcised, but behind the creative nicknames and endless argument over which is "better," there exists an agglomeration of history on the practice of circumcision, the motives behind it, and what emerging information tells us about the procedure's future.

Fleshing out the history of male circumcision

It may seem rudimentary for some, but let's start with what I mean when I say circumcision. Males are born with a layer of stretchable skin over their penis called the foreskin. Male circumcision is the act of removing said foreskin so that the glans penis (usually referred to as the head) is exposed. The actual procedure can take anywhere from 30 seconds to half an hour (depending on the patient's age) and can take

up to a few weeks to fully heal.

Like most traditions, there's no clear-cut date on when male circumcision first came onto the scene; while some reports show the practice having been around since 2400 BC, the first documented case of male circumcision came in the 23rd-century BC. For nearly 4,000 years, wherever there have been dicks, there have been male circumcisions.

So why is it that people have their sons circumcised or that men undergo the surgery later in life?

Religion is by the far the most common reason behind male circumcision, with purpose varying between what faith they belong to. In the case of Judaism, circumcision is required of all newborn boys (usually eight days after the child is born) during a ceremony known as the brit milah. As described in the Hebrew Bible, God commanded to Abraham that all males be circumcised as a sign of the covenant of God. This is why almost all practicing Jews are circumcised.

Other religions aren't as stern with male circumcision as Judaism is. The practice is mentioned in the New Testament, but Christianity does not make it a requirement. Islam is another religion that debates the necessity of male circumcision; it is recommended that Muslim boys are circumcised before they reach puberty, but others insist that because it is not mentioned in the Qur'an, it is not mandatory.

For older males, a common reason to undergo circumcision is because of phimosis, which is when the foreskin is too tight and unable to pull back over the glans penis. Besides being uncomfortable, phimosis can pose as a serious health issue if the penis becomes swollen or develops a rash.

The other argument in favour of circumcision comes from its reported health benefits. Particularly during the infant years, male circumcision can help reduce the risk of developing a urinary tract infection—though the chances of one are marginal, even before the risk reduction. Penile cancer is also more likely to occur in uncircumcised men, but like urinary tract infections, this is uncommon for both.

The one area in which male circumcision proves a notable benefit is in helping to reduce the risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections, especially against the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). In fact, the Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention declared last summer that "Voluntary medical

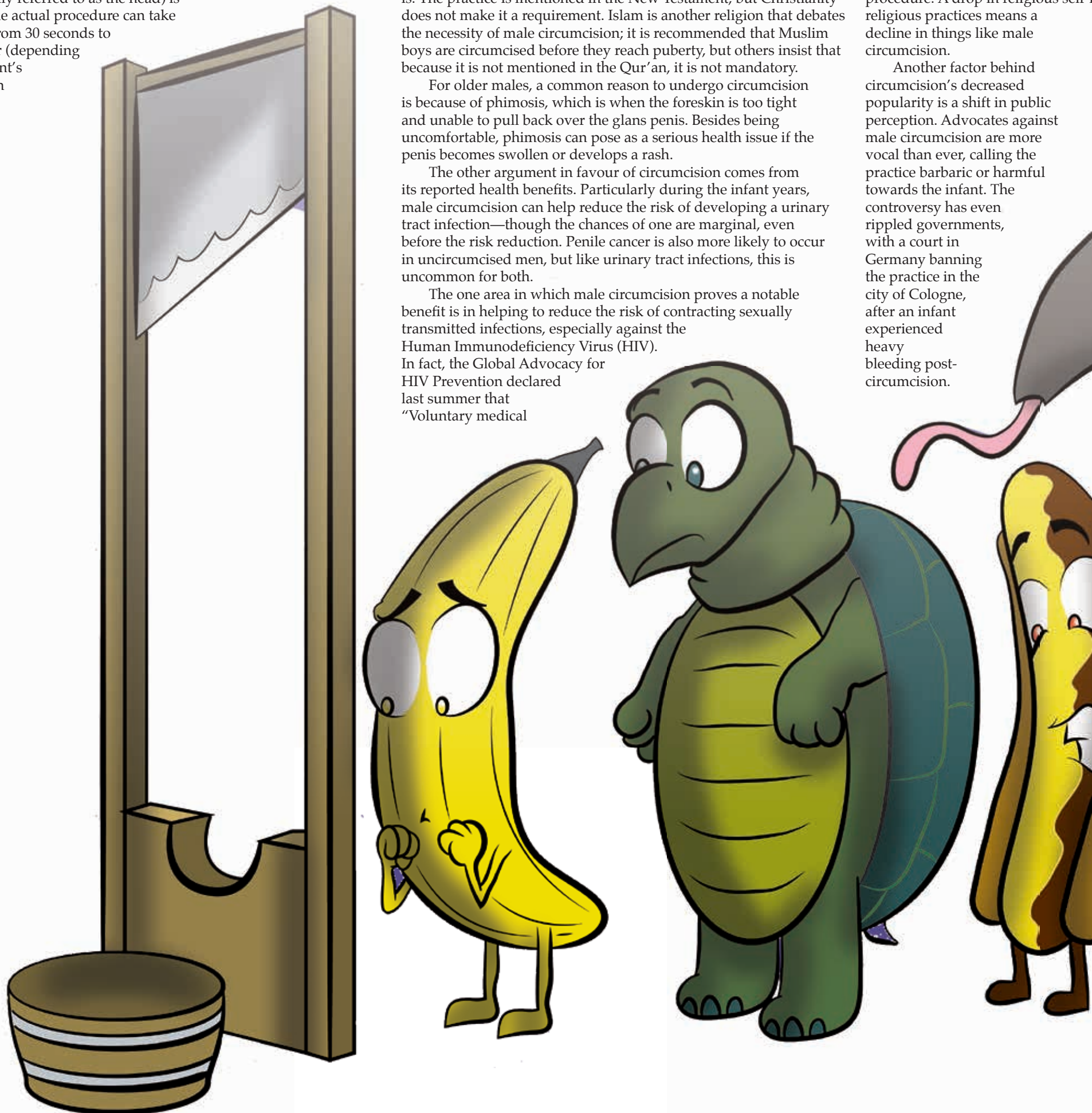
male circumcision is one of the most available today." In countries where South Africa, Nigeria, and India, male circumcision is common.

Cut it out, you guys

While some countries are embracing the practice, before, the number of circumcisions has declined, globally.

Though a direct correlation is hard to ignore. In the United States, 20 per cent of men identify as having "no religious affiliation," ever reported on the subject. At the same time, infants being born are undergoing circumcision from the 1970s, when 79 per cent of newborns underwent the procedure. A drop in religious self-identification and religious practices means a decline in things like male circumcision.

Another factor behind circumcision's decreased popularity is a shift in public perception. Advocates against male circumcision are more vocal than ever, calling the practice barbaric or harmful towards the infant. The controversy has even rippled governments, with a court in Germany banning the practice in the city of Cologne, after an infant experienced heavy bleeding post-circumcision.



sion, its current state, and now-wavering future

at effective HIV prevention tools
e HIV is more prevalent, such as
ale circumcision is becoming more

g male circumcision like never
s performed annually is on a

ard to show, the simultaneous
umcision rates is impossible
er cent of the population now
liation," the highest percentage
same time, only half of male
circumcisions, down significantly
newborns underwent the
identification means a drop in

Anti-circumcision activists claim a variety of reasons why the surgery should not be practiced. Aside from arguing that the operation is painful for the infant, the possibility of "botched" circumcisions can have severe consequences. The most infamous example would be that of David Reimer, who underwent sexual reassignment after a failed circumcision rendered his penis unusable. Reimer's parents then approved of a sexual reassignment procedure, gave him the name "Brenda," and proceeded to raise him as a girl. After a lifetime of sexual confusion and bullying, which eventually led to Reimer's parents telling him the truth about his initial sex, Reimer underwent another reassignment. He would later commit suicide, with depression being seen as a major factor. Reimer's highly documented case of sexual reassignment as the result of a failed circumcision has often made him a martyr for anti-circumcision advocates.

While cases like Reimer's are rare, the risks involved with male circumcision mean that fewer people are willing to pursue the entirely optional procedure. When I mentioned to a co-worker, newly a father himself, that I was writing an article on male circumcision, he told me of his own experience with the perspectives of modern parents. In a prenatal class he had taken prior, only one set of parents had entertained the idea of circumcision, and it was only because the father was pushing for it. None of the other parents were even considering the procedure. While certainly a small sample to look at, my co-worker's story further established the belief that male circumcision is no longer as prominent as it once was.

Headed towards a consensus?

For every country that begins advocating male circumcision, another begins to experience a decline. While the motivations behind the procedure have shifted in the last few

decades, it's not likely that male circumcision will be disappearing anytime soon. Groups like Jews Against Circumcision and Mothers Against Circumcisions continue to put pressure on the procedure's legality and practice, but it's doubtful either side will prevail.

My own stance in this debate doesn't lack bias: I myself fall under the category of uncut, a decision my parents made for me when I was younger—and none of us have really looked back since.

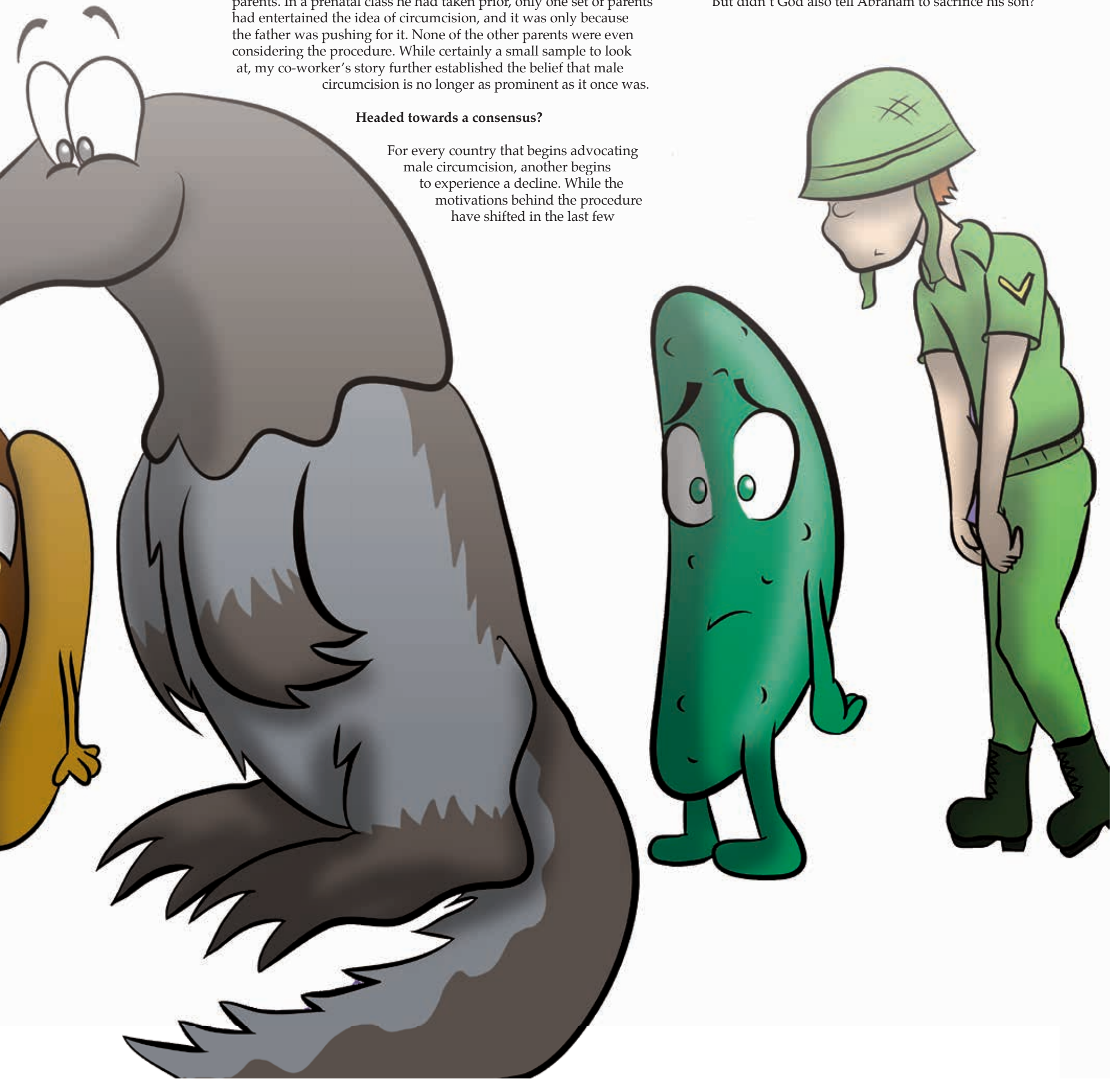
"Did you put much thought into why you didn't have me circumcised?" I asked my mom during one of the weirdest four-minute phone conversations we'd ever had.

"Well, I thought about it a little bit and I thought 'Are we supposed to do that?'" she replied, recalling the question many mothers go through when dealing with a newborn. "But I also thought 'What's the point?'"

Unaware of both the benefits and risks to the procedure, my parents' decision was completely untouched from external influences. And because my family is relatively unreligious, there was no pressure to have the operation performed for religious purposes.

"In Judaism, the book of Genesis says that God told Abraham that every boy should be circumcised." I tell her.

"But didn't God also tell Abraham to sacrifice his son?"



Food Truck Frenzy: Korean Mama Express

Where fusion meets traditional Korean cuisine in downtown Vancouver

By Patrick Vaillancourt, Contributor



The summer is officially here and the Vancouver food trucks are gearing up for what promises to be a busy season of festivals and fairs across the downtown core. The variety of culinary options available in the city’s food trucks may be daunting at first, ranging from the traditional hotdog stand to ethnic food to-go. It’s often difficult to find one that meets every bit of consumer criteria, which include friendly and timely service, affordability, variety, and quality, but Korean Mama Express offers all of these and more, including meal options for those trying to keep a healthy lifestyle.

Conveniently located at the Vancouver transit hub of Granville and West Georgia Street (in front of the Canada Line entrance to Granville SkyTrain station), Korean Mama Express has been serving up traditional Korean rice bowls, burgers, and hot dogs with a Korean twist for over two years. Open Monday to Saturday

starting at 11 a.m., Korean Mama Express can help you out with lunch, dinner, or an appetizing mid-afternoon snack. The “Korean Mama”, proprietor Young Sook Lee, who operates the food truck with help from her younger sister, is proud to offer healthy, on-the-go food options from her homeland.

“We offer Korean foods such as ‘bulgogi’ (marinated BBQ beef in rice bowl) and ‘bibimbap’ (steamed vegetable rice bowl) alongside comfort food like burgers and hot dogs with a unique Korean twist,” said the 58-year-old Lee. “We are proud of Korean food and want to share it with people in Vancouver.”

Lee’s desire to create awareness of Korean food in Vancouver is one of her genuine goals, and this diplomat of deliciousness does not disappoint.

At first glance, Korean Mama Express’ menu may look overly simplistic, but the interchangeable ingredients between the dishes make it appealing for a wide-range of dietary preferences. For instance, the bowls come with either steamed white rice or pan fried noodles as well as a choice between BBQ beef, chicken, or prawns. In order to not overwhelm customers with the spiciness inherent with Korean cuisine, Korean Mama Express takes note of a customer’s tolerance for the red pepper



Photo courtesy of Patrick Vaillancourt,

paste, offering mild, medium, or spicy dishes.

The bibimbap, which includes ground beef, carrots, onions, mushrooms, zucchini, and a fried egg on a bed of steamed rice is truly a must-have experience for anyone looking for a change of pace. At \$8.98, the bibimbap is an affordable way to get a taste of a traditional dish originating in the Korean countryside. Diving into a steaming bowl of the bibimbap may just compel you to go back for seconds.

A journey into Korean cuisine would not be complete without a taste of the country’s trademark food: kimchi. Korean Mama Express’ signature kimchi

dog, which is kimchi, onions and freshly-grated cheddar cheese sprinkled on a 100 per cent real beef sausage held together by a French hotdog bun, puts some of the city’s more seasoned hotdog vendors to shame. At \$6.98, the kimchi dog is certainly worth the upscale price.

Drink options at Korean Mama Express were not particularly noteworthy. They offer a number of carbonated beverages, as well as bottled water and juices ranging from \$1.50 to \$2.50.

The owner emphasized that the customer experience is a key driver of their business’ success. In addition to providing healthy,

delectable food at an affordable price, everyone who stops by Korean Mama Express can expect to be served with speed, accuracy, and a smile.

The food cart vendors, in particular those like Korean Mama Express who specialize in ethnic dishes, are just one shining example of the diversity present in downtown Vancouver. It’s summer in Vancouver, which means street parties, exposed beach bodies, and great street food. A kimchi dog from Korean Mama Express is a good start to another memorable summer and a great way for those looking to expand their horizons.

Science says to sheathe when shagging

Wrap them up to help wrap it up

By Dylan Hackett, News Editor

There’s a vulgar irony in that the etymological origins for “vagina” come from the Latin term for sheath, or home base for a sword. The mounting evidence leads us to believe that actual, non-physiological sheaths improve the overall human sexual experience.

Condoms are long established as the most accessible and efficient form of birth control, and while reducing the sensations enjoyed by the glans, they are

to be thanked for hundreds of millions of non-itchy genitalia, non-pregnancies, and intact immune systems. This sheath fits in your pocket and its recognition and relevance to sex is near-universal. The other sheaths with relatively newfound relevance in the bedroom are, like condoms, best purchased in bulk at Costco—the sock.

I don’t mean that in the way a sock acts as an easy clean-up for a horny and lazy 14-year-old boy. Research presented in 2005 at the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology’s Copenhagen summit (probably just a front for an incredible orgy) found a greater likelihood of orgasm occurred in intercourse when

socks were worn. The rate for those consummating barefoot was a paltry 50 per cent—probably having to do with the audience of creepy Dutch sexologist watching the shagging participants.

The female orgasm is brought on with a 30 per cent greater likelihood if said female’s toes and heels are sheathed in a tube of cotton and spandex. Allegedly, this come-rate augmentation applies for men as well but I would advise against leaving them on, guys. Unless you wear those traction socks, which I’m sure no sexually-active male does, socks can throw off the necessary traction required to maintain good doggy-style posture. A sudden bail can cause bruising

and bending of important equipment. Be especially careful if socked on high thread-count sheets—they’re slippery. The likelihood of leaving with a twisted penis increases.

Thankfully, with condoms, we don’t have to be as tactical. All that’s necessary is a quick draw hand for unwrapping (don’t go George Costanza and attack it like a bag of chips) and an investment in some supplementary lube.

But be advised: avoid any hot/cold or icy hot lubricants. For one, you’ll look like a victim of marketing targeted to Axe body spray-using demographics. Temperature duality is a feature best left to chewing gum and those knee braces that Shaq used to advertise—not slathered on

your genitals. Note to marketers: lubricants should not mimic the phases of menopause. Secondly, Trojan hot/cold condoms smell like Doritos and make your nethers feel as if they are dipped in kerosene and hung in a meat locker.

In most circumstances, condoms and socks do not belong on the same plane of respect. Wicking sweat is of far less importance than birth control, but they can have inclusive and even complementary roles. Why not give it a try? While I understand this relayed advice may alienate foot fetishists, I think a conscious effort into letting those sweat-stained Hanes in-between your sheets may be worthwhile.

Between you and me

Contraceptive concerns should be shared

By **Natalie Serafini**, Opinions Editor

It is a universally acknowledged truth: if a woman doesn't want any buns sneaking into her oven, she should ensure said oven is bun-proof with some method of bun control, leaving the baker to make buns galore with little responsibility for making sure they don't get baked.

Abandoning that metaphor, the gist here is: it's generally understood that women will be in charge of contraception, whether that takes the form of the Pill, an IUD, a patch, an implant, or something else. This is because (1) men have the option of evacuating post-ejaculation, so it's in the woman's best interest to ensure she doesn't get saddled up like a mule with any long-term responsibilities, and (2) the vasectomy, one of the better known forms of male contraception, is painful and, while reversible, not something one would want to flip-flop on.

Still, I'm perplexed by the tendency for precautionary responsibilities to fall on women. Although condoms are worn by men, they can be found in the feminine hygiene section; it's within the realm of possibility for contraception to target sperm so they shoot blanks—and scientists have pursued male contraceptive gels, pills, and shots—the vast majority of contraception on the market is focused on manipulating female hormones. I'm sure there are plenty of

men who would like to avoid parenthood for a few years or decades, but they may have no input into or knowledge of their partner's method of contraception.

Quite apart from both parties assumedly wanting to avoid unplanned pregnancy, there's the fact of being in not just a relationship but a partnership. Liza Segan, student, said, "In my experience, the discussion of birth control needs to eventually reach a level of 'team effort.' While I was still new to sex, one previous partner was unwilling to discuss the use of birth control, and instead demanded I research, find, and purchase female birth control within his time limit (despite having condoms). It's important that both partners talk to each other calmly about this topic; no individual partner should feel like a ticking time bomb."

It's frustrating that some people unbendingly believe women should be the ones to do the research, pay for the contraception if their insurance doesn't cover it, take the hormones, track the possibility for pregnancy, and deal with things if the unplanned happens. An *NBC News* article on male birth control cites Scott Hardin, a college administrator, stating "I would rather rely on a solution that doesn't [involve] medicating myself and the problems women have had with hormone therapy doesn't make me anxious to want to sign on to taking a hormone-type therapy." I don't know if Hardin's preference is to invest in condoms for the rest of his sex life, get a vasectomy, resign himself to celibacy, or depend on women to take the hormone therapies he himself is so adverse to, but his options

are essentially limited to those four—unless doing "just the tip," pulling out, or barebacking it are all preferable to using male birth control.

Hardin's right about the issues associated with hormone therapy. The Pill, one of the more popular and longstanding forms of contraception, offers numerous possibilities for health concerns. Some side effects include abdominal pain, chest pain, severe headaches, eye problems, and severe leg pains, which could be indicative of heart attack, blood clot, stroke, liver, and gall bladder disease. These are "normal" issues to be concerned about with most birth control pills, but there are also differing rates of health issues from brand to brand. The birth control brands Yaz and Yasmin have been linked to the deaths of 23 Canadian women, and Health Canada reports more than 600 adverse drug reaction reports for both contraceptives.

Even if you're in a long-term relationship, pregnancy at an inopportune time isn't something many couples can deal with. The bottom line is that you should use the best form of contraception for you, your partner, and your collective and separate situations. It's great if your partner trusts you enough to put their future in your hands, but I think it's even better if said partner has your back on the whole not having a baby thing. Whether that's wrapping their junk, contributing financially to the birth control, being open to taking contraception themselves, or discussing and ensuring they know your method of contraception, it all shows a willingness to share in the burden.

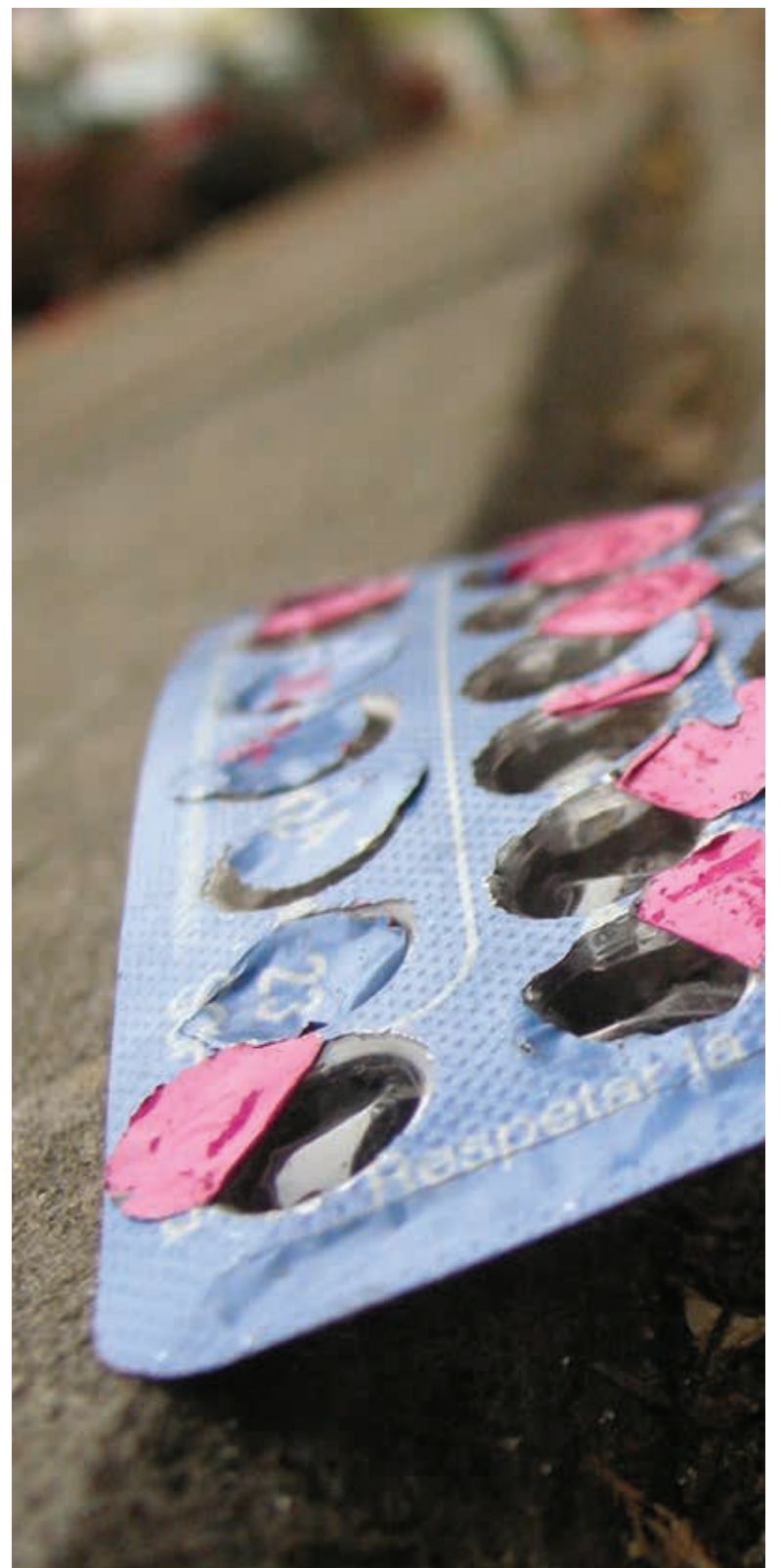


Photo courtesy of Blmurch (Flickr)

Birth Control Pills: pills which, when taken daily, have a failure rate of 0.1 per cent (although the actual failure rate is nine per cent over the first year due mostly to missed pills).

Injectable Birth Control: a contraceptive which is injected into a muscle once every three months, preventing ovulation and thickening the cervical mucus to make the cervix impenetrable to sperm. If the injection is given on time, the failure rate is less than one per cent.

Birth Control Skin Patch: a patch, containing estrogen and progestin. Equally as effective as oral contraceptives, and preferable for some women because it doesn't involve daily dosing.

Vaginal Ring: a flexible plastic ring that contains estrogen and progestin, which is slowly absorbed through the vaginal tissues, preventing pregnancy. The risks and side effects are similar to those of oral contraceptives.

Birth Control Implant: a single-rod progestin implant is inserted under the skin into the upper inner arm. It is effective for up to three years, but can be removed at any time. The implant is one of the most effective methods of birth control, and begins working within 24 hours of insertion.

IUD with Progestin: an intrauterine device that contains the hormone levonorgestrel. It can be left in place for up to five years, and is a highly effective method of birth control.

Male Birth Control Gel: contains testosterone and a progestin called Nesterone. In a study, researchers found that of the men receiving the new gel, 88 to 89 per cent achieved a sperm concentration of less than 1 million sperm per milliliter. Depending on the dosage, there was a complete absence of sperm in 69 to 79 per cent of the men taking the new gel. "Up until now, the responsibility for contraception has traditionally always been with the female. With these new contraceptive methods for males, the responsibility will be shared. While this gel has great potential and minimal side effects, it does warrant further study as a male contraceptive," says Dr. Christina Wang, a lead investigator at Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute at UCLA Medical Center.

Male Birth Control Shot: a shot that injects a polymer gel into the penis, which coats the inside walls of the vas deferens and kills sperm as they pass. Studies have shown a 100 per cent success rate, and the shot lasts 10 years.

School of Thought: Preferred partners

By **Natalie Serafini**,
Opinions Editor

A newspaper issue on sex wouldn't be complete without getting down to the bare bones of why we ain't nothin' but mammals: attraction, lust, and plain ol' desire. But let's be honest, us Douglas College students are far from desperate. We can afford to be selective in our partners, so what makes for an ideal partner? Do we look for looks? Humour and wit? Intelligence? Know-how in the bedroom and out? Is there some other quality that gets our engines revving? And of course, a question on preferred partners and deal breakers necessitates the question: does size matter?

The response from students was generally that a good person makes a good partner. When asked what makes for an ideal partner, **Kevin Yee** said, "Not an asshole." **Yee** then continued, stating, "It's gotta be someone you get along with."

Carissa felt it wasn't a

good idea to list ideal qualities. She said, "I don't want to set standards, right? Because what if you can't meet them? Not everybody follows the criteria that you're looking for."

Tamryn agreed, stating, "Every girl has a dream guy, but you're not going to get everything on your list."

For others, like **Sonia**, it was difficult to say what quality would make her like or dislike a potential partner: "I honestly don't know."

Manmeet said it comes down to "honesty."

Similarly, **Lucas Atchinson** also valued a truthful partner. He said, "Honesty. More than that, just loyalty, because if you can't really trust someone or trust them to be loyal, it's hard to actually have a relationship... That and, people who usually say appearance usually get frowned upon, but everyone goes for appearance a little bit. But it's not a main factor. I do look for loyalty and a good sense of humour and stuff like that. Just things that make a quality person, not just looks."

Emily understood the importance of spending time with people who have good music taste, saying, "Bad music taste ... not liking The Beatles, that would be a deal breaker for me."

For **Megan**, the question of deal breakers was complicated. She said, "Well, if you like someone then you kind of just accept them, you know? You love the way they are, so you wouldn't want them to change, right? Sometimes it might be a bit hard, but then you kind of have to go with it and adjust."

On the matter of size and if it's important, **Carissa** said, "No. I have a friend who's been through that or is still going through that where her partner or whatever's so much bigger, but I mean, it doesn't really affect it. Seeing that, I don't think it should."

In general, qualities like intelligence, humour, and some physical appeal act as a good base for partner preference, but apart from that you can't plan out whom you'll like. I've had plenty of deal breakers



Everyone's preferred partner, Ryan Gosling | Photo courtesy of www.mmj.tees.ac.uk

that were made to be broken: if you like the person, it doesn't matter if their political views are completely different, they only ever eat Kraft Dinner, or they're not a cat person. Beyond discerning that they're a good person and will treat you right,

you have to enter a first date, a relationship, or a one-night stand open to the possibility of liking someone you wouldn't have thought you could.

Being Liberal with money

*A penny for your
thoughts on Clark's
governing*

By **Eric Wilkins**, Staff Writer

"I think giving people raises didn't sit well with citizens. I certainly heard that over the last week." Christy Clark, ladies and gentlemen. "I take responsibility for it. I'm the premier and I'm fixing it."

It seems to be a regular routine for Clark and her BC Liberals: try to slip one past the public in broad daylight, seem slightly shocked when the ruse is discovered, and then "take responsibility for it" while attempting to come across as understanding. Clark's latest escapade, in which she endeavoured to dole out some generous salary increases, comes right on the heels of the election victory. Amusingly, since Clark lost her riding, she had collected

\$5,876 in severance pay, but was apparently going to pay it back—or at least that was the story once the *Times Colonist* called her on it.

In any case, this latest blip on the radar has helped highlight just how much money is being tossed around in Canadian politics.

Haakstad, the previous deputy, took in a paltry \$149,027. For comparison's sake, Ontario's deputy chief of staff sees an income of \$161,054. Meanwhile, Christy Clark makes \$193,500; her own deputy would have out-earned her.

Just when all that

that list of pensioners stand to receive \$1.5 million and up, based on their reaching the age of 80. Gordon Campbell's pension starts at \$98,000 per year. Meanwhile, the last lottery ticket I bought was for \$1.2 million.

If there was any doubt about where that pension

these numbers is always a reach at best. Coming back to Christy Clark's deputy chief of staff, Clark explained that Cadario's position now includes duties formerly performed by a director of policy. In other words, for only \$25,000 more, Cadario is now doing the jobs of two high-salaried people. Unless she's simply one of the most efficient human beings on the planet, it's more likely that the director of policy really didn't do much, thus failing to justify a generous income, or the former position's responsibilities are actually being spread out over several people.

Those in politics often employ the excuse that they are giving up some of the prime earning years of their lives. What does that even mean? They're all making near or over a six-figure salary; since when is that a burden? It makes no cents.

“It seems to be a regular routine for Clark and her BC Liberals: try to slip one past the public in broad daylight, seem slightly shocked when the ruse is discovered, and then “take responsibility for it” while attempting to come across as understanding.

The numbers need little explanation: were Clark's raises to have held up, her deputy chief of staff, Michele Cadario, would have been set to earn \$195,148 (her reduced raise will still see her make \$175,000), and the maximum salary number would have gone up to \$230,000. Kim

nonsense has started to settle in, keep in mind that Barack Obama's chief of staff, Denis McDonough, only makes \$172,200.

One can't forget that on top of these top-dollar salaries, anyone who serves at least six years in Legislature qualifies for a pension. The top six on

money comes from, it's from the common man. The old NDP pension plan (1996) meant that for every dollar an MLA contributed, taxpayers would contribute a dollar as well. However, in 2007, the BC Liberals changed that to a 1:4 ratio.

Justification for any of

Like a virgin, but not

Like a virgin, but not Virginity as a socially- constructed fallacy

By **Natalie Serafini**, Opinions
Editor

Dating life is peppered with the internal and external negotiations on a certain commodity: sex. More notably in youth, this involves negotiating the loss of virginity. Although your first time is said to be “special,” and “should be with someone special,” it shrinks when stacked up against the rest of your times to come, and the disproportionate significance it’s been given has made giving away your V-card more of a social fallacy than anything else.

This isn’t to say that the establishment of your relationship with sex doesn’t matter at all, or that you should hand it over to the next person you talk to. I’m tossing in this disclaimer, but obviously it’s

a good idea to always make sexual choices that are safe and that you feel comfortable with. What makes having sex right for one person could make having sex wrong for another, so the decision to pop or not pop that cherry is a personal one.

Returning to why first times aren’t that big a deal, the term “losing your virginity” seems steeped in faulty language. You don’t lose anything from the experience, but stating it in such negative terms sets a corresponding tone. The supposed loss communicates that you become less and less pure with each additional conquest, and that there’s an initial fall from grace the moment you bump uglies. Personally, I don’t put much stock in purity, and there’s little chance that using a part of your body in the way it was intended will result in a horrible decline in character.

Much like it doesn’t initiate the gradual decay in your morality, sex doesn’t change you in other ways, either. We giggle our way through tween and young adulthood seeing sex

as some sort of sexy bar or bat mitzvah where we’ll emerge a new man or woman, but that’s not the case. You don’t actually undergo a metamorphosis, few cry from the pure emotion of it all, and you don’t gain a certain special *je ne sais quoi*. First times are portrayed in teen dramas and books as life-changing, but it’s unlikely that anyone matures or drastically changes based on this single, hopefully positive, event.

Maybe because of the supposed weight of it all, there are certain “requirements” for that first time which are stated as fact for all people and situations. If I think of those teen dramas and novels, the questions posed in these situations are not “Do you know that you want to have sex with this person?” or “How comfortable are you with your relationship?” but “Do you love them?” The statement isn’t just “Be safe,” but “Your first time should be with someone you love.” I call shenanigans on this emphasis on love.

If you’re waiting for “The Love of Your Life,” you

could be waiting a long time, if not forever. Moreover, the qualifier “Someone you love” is indefinite—how to differentiate them from someone you care a lot about, or even a bit about? You know when you want to sleep with someone; love and experience, or lack thereof, needn’t be deciding factors in whether or not you get it on. Besides which, if you want to have sex with someone, chances are you care about them, and you don’t need to define further than that.

Having sex is a neutral action that can be tainted or aided by context, whether it’s your first time or your thousandth, but it seems it’s only ever portrayed in a select few lights. One of these lights involves a long and melodramatic, possibly tragic, plot. More mildly, girl meets boy, girl likes boy, girl sleeps with boy, boy loses girl’s number. More dramatically, girl gets pregnant. Or chlamydia. And dies.

While I acknowledge that these should all be concerns, they shouldn’t stop you from

having sex if they’re addressed beforehand—and afterwards. If you get chlamydia, make sure you address that afterwards, too. These cautionary tales function more or less to prevent people from becoming sexually active. When you’re bombarded with the idea that when you have sex you will lose your partner (all the worse if you’ve waited for *The Love of Your Life*)/get pregnant/get chlamydia/die, all of this adds up to the subconscious understanding that you’ll be punished for a loss of virginity and purity.

Sometimes sex is an important, life-changing experience, but until you’ve lived out your life, it’s hard to discern which moments changed it. For the time being, sex isn’t about having a life-changing experience—or at least, it’s not about going in search of one. It’s about having sex with *who* you want to *because* you both want to. Sex, whether it’s your first time or your hundredth, doesn’t need to be more complicated than that.

A multicultural alternative to multiculturalism

Multiculturalism has failed in the preservation of cultures

By **Idrian Burgos**, Contributor



There’s no doubt multiculturalism serves as an important pillar in current Canadian ideology. According to this pillar, no culture is better than the rest. Rather than the “melting pot” ideology of the United States, where all immigrant cultures are “melted” into a single national identity,

Canada, since Pierre Trudeau, has chosen the “mosaic” option of all cultures being equal and celebrated. You can celebrate your English, French, Indian, Chinese, or whatever identity you were born with. You don’t need to assume the culture of the dominant society or pretend to be a member of that society. Multiculturalism has led to the widespread celebration of Canada’s numerous ethnic identities and has, to an extent, successfully helped with the integration of immigrants into this country, allaying fears of its threat to national identity. Multiculturalism has indeed become part of our national identity, and it’s hugely celebrated.

The problem here is that it actually does a disservice to the cultures it’s supposed to protect, and to their preservation and celebration in Canada.

First of all, I disagree with having a Canadian version of the melting pot. It’s quite funny to see the “Canadian values” all Canadian immigrants must adopt, with their law and order,

parliamentary democracy, and human rights principles—essentially no different from the “American values” all American immigrants are required to adopt. The danger lies either in the domination of minority cultures by the majority culture, like in Quebec, or the subsuming of all cultures to an incomprehensible set of values. While the melting pot certainly isn’t a good model for dealing with immigrants, multiculturalism is no better of a model.

One problem with multiculturalism is its trivialization of cultures. Messages encouraging the celebration of culture intend things like food or dance. The deeper beliefs and values found in every culture aren’t much discussed. When they are, it’s often for the sake of that culture’s promotion. Not much is done to set these values against the context of a new land, to plant these cultural beliefs in a different soil—with the historic exceptions of the English, French, and

Aboriginal cultures, which were “Canadianized.” The transplanted cultures from Ukraine and Japan remain Ukrainian and Japanese in their new place—not much transformation in accordance with different conditions or a limited degree of “Canadianization.” Trivialization insults cultures, while self-preservation prevents them from participating fully in Canadian society.

Other problems with multiculturalism are its relativization of cultures and failure to provide a larger, unifying identity. The former stems from multiculturalism’s cultural equality principle, the latter from multiculturalism’s cultural-centrism. The distinct characteristics each culture can contribute alone to society are dampened by the “all cultures are equal” rule. The encouragement to celebrate your culture and other cultures leads to celebration of “culture” alone, without providing a larger framing identity under which all cultures can swear allegiance,

coexist peacefully, and play important roles in a continuing narrative of nation. And Trudeau’s liberalism doesn’t qualify.

The melting pot keeps cultures under a dominant force. Multiculturalism emphasizes culture to the point where both culture and the territorial reality beyond it are endangered. Can an alternative that does true justice to cultures and ensures the survival of a country exist?

Sir John A. Macdonald encouraged Canadians to be Canadians above all. Thomas D’Arcy McGee saw that the Irish can only be Irish under a tolerant constitutional monarchy. Joe Clark talked of a “community of communities.” A strong state identity can provide stability and a sense of purpose for the cultures under it. Each culture should contribute its best values to national identity, reshaped by local peculiarities. This combination of general identity and specific cultural contributions can best serve the welfare of smaller communities and of the larger community.

Internet intimacy

The social stigma against a safe means of finding 'The One'

By **Elliot Chan**, Staff Writer

Romance: a perpetual cloud hanging over our heads—or not.

Sometimes it's violent like a thunderstorm, other times it's a wisp in the sky-refracting sunlight upon us. Either way, we yearn for it. But it's not easy in this modern world: a relationship is as hard to get and keep as a full-time job. So with the advantages of Internet dating, why are we still reproachful of it? Why do so many consider online dating sites to be for the desperate, the lonely, and the horrifyingly unkempt? Is it ever going to change?

Dating sites exist across the globe and they're gaining popularity. What began as a trend in the early '90s is now a million-dollar industry. So why is it not like Facebook? Why are so many individuals not on

Plenty of Fish (POF) or Match.com?

It's because finding a meaningful relationship isn't as simple as picking apples out in the produce section. We choose to go to certain bars and nightclubs instead of others because we enjoy the scene, the music, and most importantly, the people there. It's easier to interact with someone if they have similar tastes and interests, and dating websites understand that—that's why in recent years the Internet has exploded with different sites appealing to every kind of person, from exotic travelers looking for companionship to married individuals seeking affairs. Yep, once we get over the stigma of online dating, odds are we will never be alone again.

Ultimately, the fear of loss, rejection, and humiliation are what keep online dating at arm's-length. Then again, heartbreak happens in physical relationships too. How often do you see two friends dating each other within a friend circle, and when the inevitable breakup happens, one of them is cast away from the group? Some people, myself included, consider this form of intimacy to

be even riskier.

Online dating is changing rapidly. Sites like POF are converting to mobile devices, allowing users to correspond without having to be tied down to their computers. "All online dating is going to be mobile in the next year or so—that's the huge thing," POF founder and CEO Markus Frind told *The Globe and Mail* before Valentine's Day this year. "We also launched top prospects a few weeks ago, which basically shows all the people you have communicated with and then we predict which one of those you're most likely to enter into a relationship with—and also stay in it."

We do a lot of shameful things in the name of love, so why are we still condemning Internet dating? Drunk girls and drunk boys, pull yourselves together and reevaluate what you really want. You can choose follow your heart, but there are many paths leading to your happy ending, and Internet dating should no longer be the road less traveled.

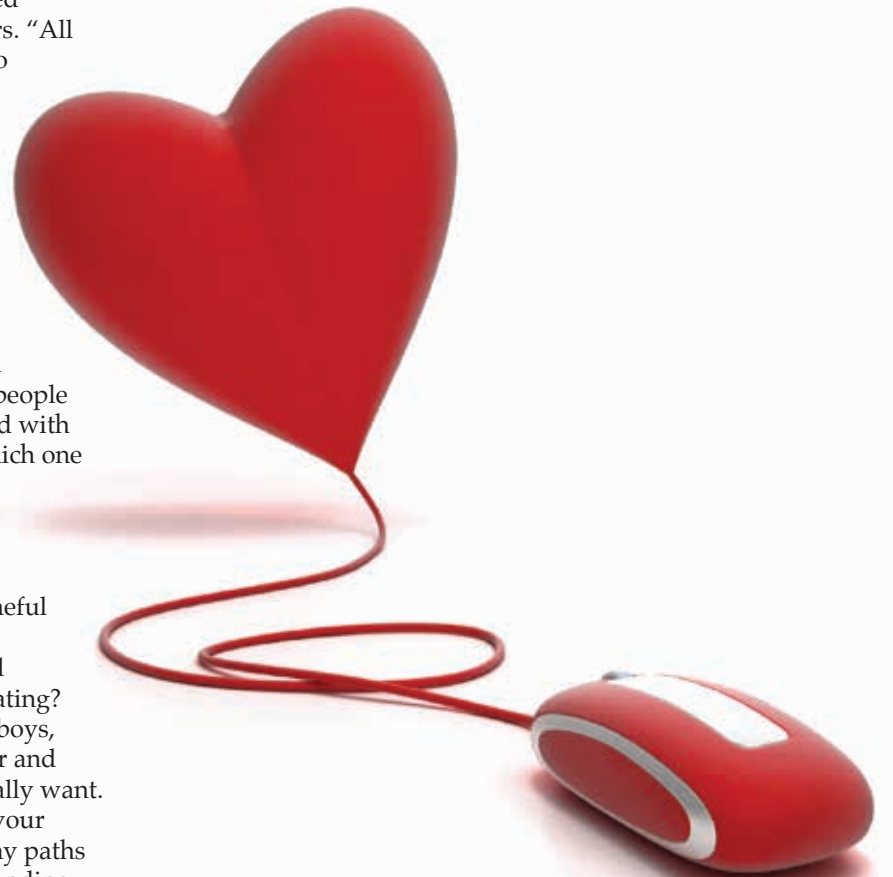


Photo courtesy of www.gathukimundu.com

Play it safe

Regular STI testing is key to safe sex

By **Aidan Mouellic**, Staff Writer

I don't know many people who practice entirely safe sex. The cloud of chemicals that turns us all into fanatical sex machines also makes us skip important steps in protecting our health and that of our partners. Using birth control and condoms is a crucial step in preventing unwanted pregnancies and many sexually transmitted infections (STIs), but those two methods of protection do not adequately protect people during typical sexual acts that many of us perform. Oral and anal sex are two acts that a lot of people perform without using barrier protection, but both forms of sexual intimacy can and do transmit STIs. It's

less glamorous and enjoyable performing oral sex on someone when their plastic-wrapped genitals resemble your grandmother's couch, but it mitigates the risk of contracting a life-altering STI.

You'd think that the rate of STIs would be on the decrease, thanks to years of sex education in schools and resources for safe sex being more widely available, but the rates of infection are increasing. In Vancouver, cases of syphilis doubled between 2011 and 2012, which has caused Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to describe the situation as having reached "epidemic proportions." According to VCH, the majority of people who have syphilis are unaware since symptoms are rarely visible.

Another recent Canadian study concluded that 14 per cent of individuals between the ages of 14 and 59 are infected with the herpes type-2 virus. Once

again, many of the people who are infected with herpes are unaware of their STI-positive status.

We should all be getting regular STI testing and also be disclosing our test results to our sexual partners if we want to engage in unprotected sexual acts.

The pornography industry is a good example of both how to have sex and how not to have sex. At first glance, everyone on screen is rarely ever wearing a condom or using a dental dam. Guys and girls who grow up watching porn before engaging in sexual acts themselves are led to believe that you can do some crazy things with strangers without using proper protection—and that it's okay. Porn is not reality. The view of sex that porn portrays is rarely positive or educational. Unlike MythBusters, no porn video begins with, "We are trained safe professionals—do no try

this yourself unless proper safety procedures are followed." In a way, porn gives permission to young, immature people to engage in unsafe sex. But hey, all the actors in the porn videos I watch look healthy, and I never hear anything about STI porn epidemics! That's because the porn industry does some things right and all actors within the industry are extremely professional and get regular STI testing to ensure that nobody will end up with more than fake moans and fun.

Some may say that I'm paranoid about getting an STI, and I agree that I have some anxiety about contracting an unwanted disease, but asking for peace of mind when going down on someone is more appealing than having to MacGyver a dental dam out of a banana-flavoured condom. It seems as if people stop talking about safety

measures once sex education class is over, but as we all become more sexually active, we should be as vigilant as ever. If one is comfortable enough to have sex with someone else, then the two should also be able to discuss their STI statuses or get tested together; if someone isn't cool with that, then it's important to resort to traditional safety measures.

Making sex safe, fun, and worry-free should be everyone's goal. Regular STI testing on yourself and your new partners will help to ensure everyone's safety and promote a healthier and more informed society.





Tiger Woods' post coital glow | Photo courtesy of Wilfredo Lee/www.WashingtonTimes.com

Abstain pre-game

Is advice bang-on?

By Eric Wilkins, Staff Writer

Since Plato, the question of whether athletes should be having sex before the big game has been debated. Some are adamant in their opposition, such as Muhammad Ali, or a bit less successfully, like when Fabio Capello allowed his players limited-access to their wives and girlfriends at the 2010 World Cup. Meanwhile, others, like George Best, swear there's nothing wrong with it: "I certainly never

found it had any effect on my performance." Take it from a man who knew how to have a good time.

Legend has it that sex saps a player's strength and decreases testosterone levels. Is it true? With an endless list of supporters for either side of the argument, it should appear there's nowhere else to turn to but our good friend science.

On the claim that sex is a draining activity: first, there are endless "studies" and "facts" about how taxing a roll in the hay is, so a middle-of-the-road stat will be referenced here. According to scientists who focused on married

partners' bedroom goings-on, sex only uses 25 to 50 calories or the equivalent of walking two flights of stairs. Not bad for 30 seconds of work, but not exactly strenuous.

As for the testosterone assertion, that has also been disproved. Emmanuelle A. Jannini of the University of L'Aquila in Italy points out just the opposite, saying that testosterone production is stimulated by sex. Abstinence can actually decrease testosterone levels. Furthering the fact that sex isn't detrimental, ESPN on *Sport Science* studied two professional boxers, one male

and one female, and found both of their testosterone levels to have been higher after doing the deed with their spouses. Performance either remained the same or saw a slight increase.

Since sex doesn't appear to inhibit any physical functions, any negatives must be mental. The male orgasm leads to a very relaxed state. In most sports, being completely relaxed isn't a feeling one wants to have. That being said, it's highly unlikely this feeling, or remnants of it, lasts well into the next day.

The only thing that studies or chemicals fail to account

for is the thought process of athletes. Everyone has their superstitions or lucky charms or special routines that they care about. Does science back any of these up? Of course not, but they definitely affect how a player performs. You stop a guy from playing his pre-game song or touching his lucky rabbit's foot, and if he thinks it'll affect his game, it will.

With the facts and the unknown tied one-to-one, it looks like the rubber match gets decided by personal preference.

War of Words: John Tortorella

John is “Torts” what the Canucks need

By **Josh Martin**, Sports Editor

He’s obnoxious, arrogant, hin-your-face, and will yell at you every chance he gets. Meet John Tortorella, the new head coach of the Vancouver Canucks.

You may already know him from numerous YouTube videos of scuffles with the media or most notably through HBO’s 24/7 series, which shows a behind-the-scenes look at his team with the New York Rangers on the road to the Winter Classic against the Philadelphia Flyers. This man drops “F” bombs left, right, and centre—and is exactly what this spoiled, country club Canucks organization needs.

At the press conference last Tuesday where the Canucks announced their new head coach, Torts showed off his good side. He answered the large mass of media questions and expressed his excitement and passion in coaching in a Canadian city. He addressed his past problems with the media and stated that he needs to work on it. And he did this all in a charming and honest demeanour.

With GM Mike Gillis hiring Torts, a lot of reports were saying that it’s a high risk move.

But is it really? What other serious candidates out there have won a Stanley Cup? Eakins of the AHL Toronto Marlies had numerous interviews with Canucks management before the Edmonton Oilers went ahead and hired him. LA Kings Assistant Coach John Stevens was another strong candidate, as well as Scott Arniel of the Chicago Wolves and Lindy Ruff who coached the Buffalo Sabres for the past 15 seasons. But none of these coaches have won a Stanley Cup before as a Head Coach in the NHL. The only coach on the market who has gone all the way is Tortorella in 2004 with the Tampa Bay Lightning. So wouldn’t this make him the best candidate?

His abrasive-yelling coaching style has been ridiculed as a style that doesn’t work in today’s NHL because players tend to eventually tune out the voice yelling. But after seven seasons of not getting reamed out by former coach Alain Vigneault, this may be exactly what the team needs.

Torts is coming to a team that arguably only has two years left with the current core group of players to win a Stanley Cup. The window of opportunity is shrinking with the Sedin twins turning 33 this September, Kevin Bieksa and Alex Burrows at 32, Dan Hamhuis turning 31 this December, and Roberto Luongo at the age of 34. Only Ryan Kesler, Alex Edler, and Jason



Canucks new coach John Tortorella | Photo courtesy of www.VancityBuzz.com

Garrison are under 30, which is something of a concern for the organization.

Cue Tortorella. With a five-year contract signed, tons of pressure rides on him to get

the job done with ‘X’ amount of time left. He’s the clear candidate and the best possible coach for this aging Vancouver Canucks team. However, he’ll need some help from Gillis in

bringing in some missing pieces to complete the roster, as the current team showed over the last two seasons that they’re not yet good enough.

A re-Tort: Brash head coach a bad choice

By **Eric Wilkins**, Staff Writer

Vancouver is a fickle city when it comes to the Vancouver Canucks. Rough patches lead to fans scurrying into hiding, and playoff runs bring out the bandwagoners from holes in the ground. The one thing that Vancouver can always be counted on for is to be obvious in its desires. This off-season, there was a fairly strong buzz in the city around hiring John Tortorella as the new head coach; the child cried for the toy and the caving parent, Gillis, obliged.

Gillis and the rest of the top brass were definitely

influenced by public opinion. Since the infamous Cody Hodgson trade, Gillis doesn’t seem to have the stones to make any real moves. Tortorella was the easy pick here. Entertainment-wise, Tortorella will be great. He’ll be worth every rounded nickel. A Vancouver media starving for a non-vanilla personality and a man who does nothing but churn out quotes? It’s a match made in heaven.

Tortorella came out in his first press conference as a completely different man. He was calm and courteous and seemed genuine when he voiced his intention to change the rude, impatient image he’s come to be known for. It’s wonderful and he probably means it, but it won’t last. When everyone makes New

Year’s resolutions, they go in with the intention of actually following through; they mean to do what they say. However, for some reason or another it becomes too much of an effort, and by the end of a few months, the resolution is all but dead in the water. That’s exactly what Tortorella’s press conference was: a New Year’s resolution.

Tortorella’s style simply won’t match up with Vancouver’s roster. He may be alright for a season but not much beyond that. One of the reasons he’s been successful in the past is because of the relatively young age of the core group of his teams. In 2001, he had Vincent Lecavalier, Brad Richards, Pavel Kubina, Dan Boyle, Vinny Prospal, and Martin St. Louis—St. Louis and

Prospal were the oldest at 26 years old. There were some veterans on that team like Dave Andreychuk, but it was mostly a younger squad that Tortorella got to mould. The results would show when they took home a Stanley Cup a few years later.

In New York, when the team reached the conference final, it was a fairly young group again. Richards and Gaborik aside, the points were coming mainly from a number of fresher faces: the likes of Brandon Dubinsky, Ryan Callahan, Derek Stepan, Ryan McDonagh, Michael Del Zotto and Artem Anisimov. It wasn’t as star-studded a team, but it was impressionable enough that Tortorella could make it his. The squad was noticeably less successful this season because of the stink Richards

and Gaborik started to make, but Tortorella’s act was also wearing a little thin.

Looking at Vancouver’s roster and based on Tortorella’s history, this hiring is doomed to fail. Vancouver isn’t a team of kids. The Canucks are an old crew. Alex Edler aside, the core group is mostly all close to or over 30. It’s difficult to see much of the lineup, specifically the Sedins, responding positively to an incessant stream of shouting, especially after the atmosphere that Vigneault brought to the table. Tortorella may work out for a time, but the breath of fresh air he’s supposed to be will quickly turn stale if he doesn’t find a way to adapt his coaching style to his new team .

What is the world’s sexiest sport?

By Josh Martin, Sports Editor

Out of the 29 individuals I spoke to, which included 15 males and 14 females, the consensus of what the world’s sexiest sport came out a bit divided. Out of the men, seven

responded with women’s beach volleyball, two said the Lingerie Football League, and three said women’s tennis. Surfing, skiing, and wrestling also had one vote each. When asked why beach volleyball was his favourite, Dougle College student Jake

Lewis shrugged and said, “Because you get to see fit, tan women jump around in bikinis.” The answers from the 13 females were the most surprising. The majority thought rugby as the sexiest sport in the world—if I had known this several years ago, I might have

joined my high school team. Another two females said tennis, while hockey, baseball, surfing, and snowboarding all tied with one vote. “It’s because they get all dirty and muddy,” SFU student Samantha Meyers said about rugby being her favourite.

“I can’t really explain it. It must be something about the way they tackle each other.” So there you have it, folks: an answer to the life-long question of what is the world’s sexist sport.



Throwing it all away

Hernandez charged with murder

By Eric Wilkins, Staff Writer

Aaron Hernandez had always been destined for the NFL. Coming out of high school, he was considered the top tight end recruit. After declaring for the University of Florida, Hernandez would put in two solid years before breaking out in his junior season and winning the John Mackey Award for top tight end in the country. All the hours in the gym and in film study was finally paying off. Forgoing his senior season, Hernandez declared for the draft in April, and was selected in the fourth round by the New England Patriots.

Fast forward to early June and things were looking pretty good for Hernandez. He'd been signed to a five-year \$37.5-million deal in August of 2012 and had just put an injury-troubled season behind him. He was considered one of the top tight ends in the league and was still playing with one of the finest quarterbacks in the game,

Tom Brady. Hernandez was the definition of "making it."

And then it all fell apart.

On June 18, police searched Hernandez's home while investigating the death of Odin Lloyd, a semi-pro football player who was dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancé—the two were supposedly friends. It began to look grim for the star tight end when it was discovered he had turned over his phone in pieces to police, destroyed his home security system, and hired some professional cleaners for his residence. On June 26, Hernandez was charged with murder. The Patriots immediately released him and the NFL pulled his jersey from their online store. It was also revealed that Hernandez was being investigated in connection with a double homicide in July of 2012 in Boston. CytoSport and Puma have since cancelled their sponsorship deals with him.

There are millions of kids who dream of playing in the NFL one day. A fraction of these kids will be stars in high school. A portion of them will be someone in college. A veritable handful of players will get a crack at the NFL. And of those who do make it to the big stage,



Recently arrested, ex-Patriot's tight end, Aaron Hernandez (left) | Photo courtesy of Mike George/AP/The Vancouver Sun

the majority of them will be out of the league in three years or less.

Hernandez's case is a sad commentary on the extreme

short-sightedness of human nature. It's impossible to understand what possessed Hernandez, or any star that spits in the face of their own hard

work. To have come this far, to have it all, and then to make it all disappear in the blink of an eye. Hernandez is only 23 years old.

The physical price athletes pay

By Josh Martin, Sports Editor

When it comes to injuries, it's no secret that athletes tend to play through them. Nearly every player in the playoffs is battling through some form of physical pain, despite the future consequences to their health. This may be because of the need-to-win attitude grounded into their mentality, or it could be the lack of knowing what effects an injury can have long-term. But most likely, it's the level of competitiveness among teammates and opponents that drive these players to the edge. Wherever it may be, there has to be a point where you say enough is enough.

NFL Hall of Famer cornerback Ronnie Lott seriously injured his finger during the 49ers last regular-season game in the 1985 season. When faced with the choice of

either undergoing procedures to fix the finger and missing the playoffs, or amputating the tip and playing right away, Lott chose to amputate the finger.

In 1956, Manchester City goal keeper Bert Trautmann suffered a neck injury with 15 minutes to go in the FA Cup Final. He played on and his team won the match 3-1

hospital in an ambulance in game five of the Stanley Cup finals a few weeks ago. He returned in game six to help his team win the Stanley Cup against the Boston Bruins. It was revealed the next day that he was playing with a separated shoulder, torn cartilage, a broken rib, and a punctured lung, speculated to have been

takes the cake.

It's the individual's decision what to do with their health and body, but the league needs to lengthen the games in a regular season in order to prevent injuries.

The Major League Baseball (MLB) season consists of 162 regular-season games in a span of approximately 180 days

off the schedule easily and there wouldn't be much of a difference in terms of where teams rank in the standings. If a team is terrible after 120 games, then another 42 games probably won't make a difference.

The same could be said for the National Basketball Association and National Hockey League—both leagues that withstand 82 games in a regular season. Decreasing that amount by five or more games would make a huge difference in terms of giving the players the rest they need, especially since the post-season is so physically and mentally demanding.

Lessening the amount of games in a season may be the only possible way to prevent injuries from athletes. There's no way these players are going to let their bodies get in the way of helping their team reach a championship title—it's just not going to happen.

“If a team is terrible after 120 games, then another 42 games probably won't make a difference.”

against Birmingham City. After a few days of prominent pain, an X-ray revealed that he had dislocated five vertebrae and cracked the second in two, an injury that could have cost the keeper his life.

More recently, Patrice Bergeron of the Chicago Blackhawks was rushed to

caused because of the broken rib that was left untreated.

One might call these players heroes of the game. They're warriors who will fight to the very end, but they're also incredibly stupid. The aforementioned example of Mr. Lott slicing off his finger in order to play in the playoffs

between the months of April and September. One can make the argument that baseball isn't as physically demanding as other sports, so they should be able to put up that many games in such a limited amount of time. But 162 games in 180 days is unnecessary and ridiculous. The MLB could slice 20 games

FAUX

roscoes

SEX EDITION

By Madame Mystique

Capricorn
(December 22-January 19)
To spice up your sex life, try shoving a pickle jar up your partner’s rectum. It’ll feel much better than a vibrator.

Aquarius
(January 20-February 18)
It’s always a good idea to have your partner, who’s prone to grand-mal seizures, go down on you.

Pisces
(February 19-March 20)
If your partner prefers you to be circumcised, do the circumcision yourself. Ladies will have a harder time than men, but at least you’ll make your partner happy.

Aries
(March 21-April 19)
A chainsaw is a perfectly acceptable substitute for a vibrator.

Taurus
(April 20-May 20)
A good place to 69 is right in front of your Conservative grandma’s bridge group. Also, make sure you bring your giant black dildo for extra fun.

Gemini
(May 21-June 20)
Everyone has their own kinks, but you should always talk about your diaper fetish in front of your co-workers. They’ll

really appreciate the story about the time you got a rattle stuck up your ass.

Cancer
(June 21-July 22)
If your partner tells you that he or she has herpes, the best solution is to pour bleach on your privates.

Leo
(July 23-August 22)
If you’re drunk, horny, and manage to somehow get into a zoo, the first thing you should do is try to hump a lion.

Virgo
(August 23-September 22)
When you decide to masturbate to porn but are tired of seeing the same sites over and over again, try lemonparty.org. They do things the old-fashioned way!

Libra
(September 23-October 22)
Try having anal sex with your partner’s head in an oven to really heat things up.

Scorpio
(October 23-November 21)
Is anal sex starting to get too boring? Try sticking things up your or your partner’s urethra.

Sagittarius
(November 22-December 21)
Remember, when engaging in hard core BDSM, safe words are always optional.

With files from Livia Turnbull



Chapter three of ‘Toasted’

An erotic fiction,
sponsored by Quiznos

By Elliot Chan,
Passionate Lover and Sellout

When he suggested that you both meet at the local Quiznos for dinner, you were surprised. After all, it’s one of the finest establishments you know. Sure, you often find yourself being frugal and going to Subway instead, but you get what you pay for. Mesquite, Honey Bacon Club, Prime Rib Peppercorn: the selection is endless, or perhaps you’re just indecisive—like your selection of men. Negative thoughts, go away, and think only of Quiznos today.

You arrive a bit early, a force of habit. The cute mustached high school student behind the counter smiles at you. You smile back. Don’t play these games, you tell yourself; he’s not the one you’re waiting for.

Sitting near the glass window by the door makes you feel like an animal in a zoo, people walking by glance at you. What are they thinking? Did they see how pretty you look? Did they see how desperate you are? What will he think of you when he enters? Tension is building, you want to flee, but it’s too late.

Your eyes and his connect like a

laptop to Quiznos’ free Wi-Fi connection. “Come here often?” he asks as he embraces you with his strong, masculine arms, engulfing you with the scent of Tag body spray.

“Not often enough,” you reply with a coy smile. “But I always enjoy myself when I do.”

So this is how the courtship begins. As your sandwich is being made, you imagine the two of you lying on the flat bread and layering lettuce, tomato, cheese, and honey mustard all over your bodies. You lick your lips and look up to him. His eyes glow seductively; he might have just been reading your mind.

“Toasted?” the lost Mario brother employee asks.

“Always,” you answer with a wink. In your mind, they fought for your honourable hand using sandwich meat as weapons.

You take your sandwich, find a seat, and wait. He arrives moments later with a tender smile, just like the savory Black Angus Steak in his sandwich. “Hungry?” he asks, unraveling his meal with the meticulous dexterity of a certified sandwich artist.

“Starved,” you say while peeling back the wrapper clumsily. You take a bite, the crust crumbles, the meaty inners tear apart and the sauce dribbles down your chin. You wonder as you look up at him: can a man compare with a sandwich in bed? You’re compelled to ask, but you’ll find out soon enough. Toasted? Always.

You Tube Comedy Classics

Stick ‘em Up!



By Joel McCarthy, Graphics Manager

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztdlg5tMQfY>

Check out the link above to watch a hilarious review of different toy guns. What makes the video funny is one of the “Toy Guns” he reviews is a totally different kind of gun—meant for a different type of banging than the reviewer had intended.

www.dsu18.ca



Douglas Students Union



@dsu18



DOUGLAS STUDENTS' UNION
Local 18 - Canadian Federation of Students



fries

gravy

cheese

Canadian
deliciousness

FREE

POUTINE PARTY

Thurs, July 11, 11:30am-3pm* DSU Lounge NW

*or until food runs out

11th Annual

DSU

David Lam Campus

Summer

BBQ

FREE
for
Douglas
Students



Thurs, July 4th 11am-3pm*

*or until food runs out.
*Staff welcome by
donation.



Happy
Summer
Everyone!

Check out DSU online services:

HOUSING

REGISTRY



Book
Exchange



www.dsu18.ca